

St. Paul's Anglican Church January 28, 2024 Conversion of St. Paul

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Incumbent – The Rev. Bonnie Skerritt Honorary Assistant – The Rev. Canon Greg Physick Music Director – Diane Stecher

10:00 am Holy Eucharist (BAS)

Indigenous Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this church is situated upon traditional Indigenous territory. We recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples connected to and on this land. We are grateful for the opportunity to gather on this territory and we commit ourselves to the work of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

Creator, let us be of Good Mind to reconcile the mistreatment of this land and to those who have been displaced. With thankful and respectful hearts we pray in Your name, Your Son the Peacemaker and the Sacred Spirit. Amen.

Processional Hymn #430 Will You Come and Follow Me

Welcome & Announcements

Sentence: This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Acts 2.32

The Gathering of the Community (All stand)

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Almighty God,

All to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. 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.

Glory to God

Celebrant Glory to God in the highest, All 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.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.

ALL: Almighty God, by the preaching of your servant Paul you caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world. May we who celebrate his wonderful conversion follow him in bearing witness to your truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading Acts 26: 9-23

Indeed, I myself was convinced that I ought to do many

things against the name of Jesus of Nazareth. And that is what I did in Jerusalem; with authority received from the chief priests, I not only locked up many of the saints in prison, but I also cast my vote against them when they were being condemned to death. By punishing them often in all the synagogues I tried to force them to blaspheme; and since I was so furiously enraged at them, I pursued them even to foreign cities.

With this in mind, I was travelling to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests, when at midday along the road, your Excellency, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions. When we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads." I asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The Lord answered, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you. I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles-to whom I am sending you to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me."

'After that, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout the countryside of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance. For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me. To this day I have had help from God, and so I stand here, testifying to both small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would take place: that the Messiah must suffer, and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 67 (said responsively)

May God be merciful to us and bless us, show us the light of his countenance and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has brought forth her increase; may God, our own God, give us his blessing.

May God give us his blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

All Blessed are you, Lord our God, light of the earth and health of the nations; you lead us in the way of justice and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Second Reading Galatians 1: 11-24

For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God

and was trying to destroy it. I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterwards I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him for fifteen days; but I did not see any other apostle except James the Lord's brother. In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie! Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia, and I was still unknown by sight to the churches of Judea that are in Christ; they only heard it said, 'The one who formerly was persecuting us is now proclaiming the faith he once tried to destroy.' And they glorified God because of me.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Gradual Hymn

#505 (verses 1-2) Be Thou My Vision

Reader The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Holy Gospel Matthew 10: 16-22

See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as

doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

People	Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
Reader	The Gospel of Christ.

Gradual Hymn

#505 (verses 3-4) Be Thou My Vision

Homily The Rev'd Bonnie Skerritt

The Apostles' Creed

Celebrant Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Litany 3

(Let us offer our prayers to the source of all love and all life, saying, "Lord, hear our prayer.")

Merciful Lord, we pray for all who call themselves Christians: that we may become a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to the praise of Christ Jesus our Saviour.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for N our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers: that they may remain faithful to their calling and rightly proclaim the word of truth.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for Charles our King, for the leaders of the nations, and all in authority: that your people may lead quiet and peaceable lives.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for this city and those who live here, the poor and the rich, the elderly and the young, men and women: that you will show your goodwill to all.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for the victims of our society and those who minister to them: that you will be their help and defence. **Lord, hear our prayer**.

We pray for those preparing for baptism, (for those recently baptized): that they may be strengthened in the faith.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We give thanks for all the saints who have found favour in your sight from earliest times, prophets, apostles, martyrs, and those whose names are known to you alone: and we pray that we too may be counted among your faithful witnesses.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Celebrant Most merciful God,

All 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 neighbours 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.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Offertory Hymn

#283 By All Your Saints Still Striving (1,2c,3)

The Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant Almighty God, as we celebrate this holy eucharist, may your Spirit fill us with the light of faith. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

People Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Celebrant	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 our thanks and
praise.	

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, because in the fellowship of your saints you have given us a glorious pledge of the hope of our calling. Therefore, we join our voices with theirs as earth and heaven unite to proclaim the glory of your name.

All 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.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling 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 Saviour 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 he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, 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, Father, according to his command,

All We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, 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, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all 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 whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

People Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

All God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

The Communion

CelebrantThe gifts of God for the People of God.PeopleThanks be to God.

Agnus Dei Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, Redeemer, redeemer of the world, Give us your peace, give us your peace.

Hymns during Communion

#352	Amazing grace
#341	God of mercy, God of grace
# 52	O God unseen, yet Ever Near

Choir anthem How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord (#466)

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant Gracious God, you filled your apostle Paul with love for all the churches. May the sacrament we have received foster love and unity among your people. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

People Amen.

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God,

All whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn #384 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Dismissal



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Treasurer (in-training)

The wardens are looking for someone to take over the position of Church Treasurer as of October 1, 2024. Tom Ross has been doing this job for well over a decade and has been trying to "retire" for some time now, as he and Janice wish to do more travelling and family time.

If you have any experience with QuickBooks and/or accounting in general, might this be your calling to help our Church? A job description is available to review the tasks involved. Tom would be providing on-the-job training over the next nine months so you would slide over smoothly as the Treasurer. He would also be around if a question needed to be asked down the road. Please prayerfully consider this position. If you are interested, please speak to Betty Hooper or Paul Carpentier.

Refreshment Hour A new signup sheet has been posted in the main hall for refreshments. Please sign up, as this is an important time for Fellowship and a chance to welcome any new parishioners. Please consider doing one Sunday every three months.

Events Committee

Today, during coffee hour Ray Marshall and members of the event committee would be interested in hearing about your ideas for events, and how you might consider volunteering to get it going.

PANCAKE LUNCH AND SUPPER

Ray Marshall and Paul Carpentier are undertaking the planning for this event. Servers, kitchen help, dishwashers, and ticket handlers are needed. Please visit the volunteer sign-up sheet in the hall early to get your favorite shift(s)! We really count on your support to make this a successful event and thank you in advance for helping as you are able.

Next Weeks' Readings February 4th, 2024

1st reading Isaiah 10: 21-31 Psalm 147: 1012, 21c

2nd reading 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Gospel Mark 1:29-39

Up-coming Services

February 14th Ash Wednesday 11a.m. Service & 7pm service



Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Please join us in the hall for a time of refreshment and fellowship after the service.

Please note that all hymns are taken from Common Praise (1998) or are printed in the leaflet Music used with permission, CCLI #11236091 Streaming License #CPSL 162909

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