MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Prelude: Two preludes on “Love divine, all loves excelling”
Paul Manz (1919-2009) and Mark Sedio (b. 1954)

Opening Hymn: “Now the green blade riseth” #204 The Hymnal 1982

1 Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain;
2 In the grave they laid him, Love whom hate had slain;
3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,

wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
think ing that never he would wake again,
he that for three days in the grave had lain,
thy touch can call us back to life again,

love lives again, that with the dead has been:
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

Refrain

Love is come again like wheat that springs green.

Opening Acclamation
Celebrate: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.
Celebrate: Alleluia, Christ is risen.
People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.
Gloria “Glory to God”

1. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

2. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

3. 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;

4. You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

5. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, 7. you alone are the Most
Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.
Celebrant: O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

First Reading: Acts 10:44 – 48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.
Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: (choir) Psalm 98

Anglican Chant by James Turle (1802-1882)

1 Sing to the L ORD a new song, *
   for he has done marvelous things.

2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
   has he won for himself the victory.

3 The L ORD has made known his victory; *
   his righteousness has he openly shown in
   the sight of the nations.
4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, * and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; * lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, * with the harp and the voice of song.

7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn * shout with joy before the King, the LORD.

8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, * the lands and those who dwell therein.

9 Let the rivers clap their hands, * and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, when he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world * and the peoples with equity.

**Second Reading:** 1 John 5:1 – 6

*Reader:* A Reading from the First Letter of John.
Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.
**Gospel Alleluia** The Alleluia is sung by a cantor, then repeated by all, then repeated by all again after the gospel sentence.

![Musical Staff]

Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia.

**Holy Gospel**: John 15:9 – 17

*Celebrant*: The Lord be with you.

*People*: And also with you

*Celebrant*: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People*: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

*Celebrant*: The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**Sermon**

Fr. Jarred
Nicene Creed

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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:
*The Celebrant introduces the prayers.*

Grant, Almighty God, that all who have passed through the waters of baptism and into your resurrection life may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another, work to end racism, liberate the oppressed, feed the hungry, lift up the lowly, and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, loving one another as he loves us, and dispelling the darkness with the light of his resurrection.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Among those who have asked for our prayers, we pray for:

Paul Lucas – Parishioner
Karen Caplan – Parishioner
Richard and Jane Ellis – Friends of Pat Maslen
Jim Reid – Parishioner
Douglas Schaller – Cousin of Mark Davis & Gail Bishop Davis
Harriet Sosa – Cousin of Mark Davis & Gail Bishop Davis
Betty Abby Stearns – Parishioner
Nick Varoutsos – Friend Alison & Peter Novello
Cara O’Reilly McCabe – Cousin of Paul Acquaviva
Rachel Perry – Daughter of Karen Caplan
Catherine McCosker – Daughter of Mary & Frank Condella
Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

We rejoice with those who have reason to give thanks this week.
- With Ken, who is thankful for becoming a Great Grandfather and for his Granddaughter Heather’s safe delivery of Kelsey Jo.
- With Cecile and Doug, who give thanks for the High School graduation of their oldest granddaughter later this month in NC.
- With Bev who is thankful that her three sons John, Chris, and Colin, have recovered from Covid.
- And on this Mother’s Day, we give thanks for all mothers, expectant mothers, women who do not or cannot have children but influence and nurture others, and all those who have cared for us throughout our lives.

We thank you, Lord,  
*and Bless your Holy Name.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, among those who have died recently, William Hubbard and Robyn Freeman, and all those whose anniversary falls at this time, Jolene Freeman Short-Porter and for Josiah Welch whose funeral was held yesterday, that your will for them be fulfilled and that they may share with all your saints in the glory of Christ’s resurrection.

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

Rejoicing in our fellowship with Blessed Mary, Paul and all your saints, we offer our whole lives to you and in a moment of silence our own prayers.

*Celebrant:* Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, “Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you.” Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever.  
*Amen.*
**Confession & Absolution**

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence.*

*Celebrant & 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 Celebrant 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.*

**The Peace**

*Celebrant:* The peace of Christ be with you always.

*People:* And also with you.

*All share signs of Christ’s peace with one another,*
especially seeking to amend any hurts or conflicts.

**MINISTRY OF THE TABLE**

The offering is taken and the altar is set for the Eucharist.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his name, bring offerings and come into his courts.
Offertory Hymn: “As those of old their first fruits brought”  

Unison or harmony

1. As those of old their first fruits brought of vine-yard, flock, and field to God, the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield; so we today our first fruits bring, the wealth of this good land, of

2. A world in need now summons us to labor, love, and give; to make our life an offering to God that all may live; the Church of Christ is calling us to make the dream come true: a

3. With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to thee to serve thy cause and share thy love with us thyself in Jesus Christ thy Son, help

[Music notation and lyrics for the hymn]
Eucharistic Prayer

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.

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:

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The Celebrant continues

It is right to give God thanks and praise.
The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.
Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues
Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Celebrant continues with the Doxology, to which all respond with the “great Amen.”

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Celebrant then continues
As our Saviour taught us, now we pray:

People and Celebrant
Our Father in heaven,
    hallowed be your Name,
    your kingdom come,
    your will be done,
    on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
    as we forgive those who sin against us.
    Save us from the time of trial,
    and deliver us from evil.
    For the kingdom, the power,
    and the glory are yours,
    now and for ever. Amen

Fraction: The Breaking of the Bread
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.
Agnus Dei: “Lamb of God”

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

Prayer of Spiritual Communion
Celebrant: As we are not all gathered to receive the sacrament together, we pray this prayer of spiritual communion:
All: Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.
(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)
Post-Communion Anthem: “I know that my Redeemer lives”
Words: Samuel Medley (1738-1799); Music: Austin C. Lovelace (1919 – 2010)

I know that my Redeemer lives. What comfort this sweet sentence gives.
He lives to bless you with his love. He lives to plead my cause above.
He lives to crush the fiends of hell. He lives and doth within me dwell.
He lives, all glory to his name. He lives, my Jesus, still the same.
I know that my Redeemer lives. What comfort this sweet sentence gives.
Shout on, pray on, we’re gaining ground. The dead’s alive and the lost is found.
Glory, hallelujah!

After communion the Celebrant continues:
Let us pray.
Celebrant & 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.

Blessing
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

The celebrant pronounces a blessing, after which all respond
Amen.

Dismissal
The Celebrant sings the Easter dismissal, and all respond:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, al-le-lu-ia.

Thanks be to God, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.
Closing Hymn: “Love divine, all loves excelling”  

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee; changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.
Postlude: “Voluntary in C-Major”  William Croft (1687-1727)

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TODAY’S SERVICE LEADERS
Clergy: The Rev. Dr. Jarred A. Mercer
Music Director: Mark Meyer
Choir: Terry Anderson, Richard Blumenscheid, Elaine Bucher, Joyce Cejka, Virginia Meyer, Jane Niebling
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Annie Winslow
Lectors: Virginia Meyer

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Cycle of Prayer
Today as we worship we keep in our prayers the *Parishes of the Concord River Deanery*: St. Mark’s Chapel, St. Mark’s School, Southborough; St. Elizabeth’s Church, Sudbury; St. Peter’s Church, Weston; The Ministry of the Diocesan Altar Guild and all Altar Guilds, and in the *local cycle of prayer*: Star of the Sea Church, Salisbury.

Prayer List
*Person to Pray for and Relationship*
Allison Flynn – Niece of Sue Olson & Nancy Jukins
Eve Steinberg – Friend of Sue Olson & Nancy Jukins
Judy Abby – Parishioner
Debby Demopoulos – Sister of Pat Maslen
Marya Toffey – Niece of Ann Winslow
Keetah Life – Parishioner
Stephen Mathis – Friend of Priscilla Bellairs
Talia Duff—Niece of Lorrie and Jeff Jones
Stephen Jones—Nephew of Lorrie and Jeff Jones
Betty Moberger – Sister-in-law of Ingrid Sanborn
Marilyn Diehl – Friend of Ingrid Sanborn
Jill Davila – Niece of Carole Bishop
Tony Broer - Brother of Carole Bishop
Joanne Norris – Friend of Sheila & Jack Butler
Karen – Friend of the Budzyna family
Theresa Winslow – Mother of Ed Winslow
Olin Braids – Brother of Priscilla Bellairs
Karen Greene – Family of Wendy Colby
Betty Trowbridge – Friend of Donna Northam
Marie Buckman – Mother of Linda Davis Siess
Lois Schofield – Parishioner
Mary Snowdon – Parishioner
Ken Leistler – Friend of Susan Flint
Laura Hobbs – Friend of Susan Flint
Jeanne Rainoldi – Friend of Ann Staffeld
Vikas Chandhoke – Friend of Alison & Peter Novello
Richelle Stephens – Friend of Susan Flint
John Coliano – Friend of Cathleen Williamson
Ann Davis – Friend of Cathleen Williamson
Kristin Corning – Parishioner
Nancy Burkholder – Sister-in-law of Pat Maslen
Jori Guldenstern
Rev. Connie Reinhardt – Friend of St. Paul’s Church
Alan White – Friend of Susan Flint
Tim Coco – Friend of Susan Flint
Barbara Barnes – Cousin of Joyce Thayer
Alexander Wood – Cousin of John Neale
Corey – Friend of Alison & Peter Novello
Kathy Steele – Friend of Ed Winslow
Karen Staffeld – Niece of Ann Staffeld
George Partaledis – Friend of Joyce Thayer
Mike Dichiara Jr. – Friend of Susan Flint
Jane Robinson – Friend of Annie Winslow
Willard Hadley – Parishioner
Peggy Dunlap – Parishioner
Mary Paddy – Parishioner
Allison Ballentine – Friend of Susan Acquaviva
Paul Lucas – Parishioner
Karen Caplan – Parishioner
Richard and Jane Ellis – Friends of Pat Maslen
Jim Reid – Parishioner
Douglas Schaller – Cousin of Mark Davis & Gail Bishop Davis
Harriet Sosa – Cousin of Mark Davis & Gail Bishop Davis
Betty Abby Stearns – Parishioner
Nick Varoutsos – Friend Alison & Peter Novello
Cara O’Reilly McCabe – Cousin of Paul Acquaviva
Catherine McCosker – Daughter of Mary & Frank Condella
Statement of Call - St. Paul's Church

St. Paul's is a Christian community where people are met and accepted without judgment for who they are and are adopted into a loving and caring family. Our faith provides a framework within which we explore, honor and celebrate the presence of God in daily experiences, especially in the crises, conflicts and transitions of life, and are thereby equipped to live fully in an increasingly complex and changing world.

We believe we are called to center our life in Jesus Christ through a regular discipline of Eucharistic worship, scripture study and prayer.

We believe our faith leads us to fulfill our mission, which is to share ourselves and our resources with each other, our community and the world.

We believe we are called to discover and affirm our spiritual gifts and be responsible and committed ministers of these gifts in the name of Jesus Christ.
St. Paul’s 2021 Vestry
Ed Winslow – Senior Warden
Karen Spangler – Junior Warden
Nick Ives – Treasurer
Deirdre Budzymna – Clerk

Shepherds
Class of 2024
Lorrie Jones
Lisë Reid
Class of 2023
Kerry Lagueux
John Neale
Alison Novello
Class of 2022
Vanessa Ayersman
Jane Niebling
Sam Walker

St. Paul’s is a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts
Our bishops are:
The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates
The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris

St. Paul’s Staff
The Rev. Dr. Jarred A. Mercer, Rector – rector@stpauls-nbpt.org
Mark Meyer, Music Director – markmeyer49@gmail.com
Linda Siess, Children & Youth Coordinator - stpauls.childrenyouthcoord@gmail.com
Deb Hay, Office Manager – stpauls@stpauls-nbpt.org
Office: 978-465-5351

Office Hours
Monday – Wednesday 8am – 4pm
Thursday – Friday 8am – 2pm

Websites
Diocese of Massachusetts www.diomass.org
St. Paul’s Church www.stpaulsnewburyport.org