



The Season after **Pentecost**

Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.

THE FEAST OF PRISCILLA AND AQUILA



Priscilla and Aquila

Priscilla (/pri'silə/; **Greek**: Πρίσκιλλα, *Priskilla* or sometimes misspelled as *Priscila*) and **Aquila** (/ˈækwɪlə/; **Greek**: Ἀκύλας, *Akylas*) were a first century Christian missionary married couple described in the New Testament. Aquila is traditionally listed among the Seventy Disciples. They lived, worked, and traveled with the Apostle Paul, who described them as his "fellow workers in Christ Jesus" (Romans 16:3).^[1]

Priscilla and Aquila are described in the New Testament as providing a presence that strengthened the early Christian churches. Paul was generous in his recognition and acknowledgment of his indebtedness to them (Romans 16:3–4). Together, they are credited with instructing Apollos, a major evangelist of the first century, and "[explaining] to him the way of God more accurately" (Acts 18:26).

New Testament references

They are mentioned six times in four different books of the New Testament, always named as a couple and never individually.

Welcome and Announcements:

9:30 Wed. July 7th, 2021



Opening Acclamation:

BCP p. 355

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

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

Presider 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.

Gloria in Excelsis

(Words found in BCP p. 356)

**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 Fa-
ther,**

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,

The Collect of the Day:

BCP p. 357

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

People God of grace and might, who gave to your servants Aquila and Priscilla gifts of zeal and eloquence to make known the truth of the Gospel: Raise up, we pray, in every country, heralds and evangelists of your kingdom, so that the world may know the immeasurable riches of our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lesson

A reading from the book of the **Acts 18:1–4, 18–21, 24–28**

Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together—by trade they were tentmakers. Every sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks.

After staying there for a considerable time, Paul said farewell to the believers and sailed for Syria, accompanied by Priscilla and Aquila. At Cenchreae he had his hair cut, for he was under a vow. When they reached Ephesus, he left them there, but first he himself went into the synagogue and had a discussion with the Jews. When they asked him to stay longer, he declined; but on taking leave of them, he said, “I will return to you, if God wills.” Then he set sail from Ephesus.

Now there came to Ephesus a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria. He was an eloquent man, well-versed in the scriptures. He had been instructed in the Way of the Lord; and he spoke with burning enthusiasm and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. He began to speak boldly in the synagogue; but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained the Way of God to him more accurately. And when he wished to cross over to Achaia, the believers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him. On his arrival he greatly helped those who through grace had become believers, for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, showing by the scriptures that the Messiah is Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Psalm 119:33-40

Legem pone (Read aloud in unison)

**33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, *
and I shall keep it to the end.**

**34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; *
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, *

for that is my desire.

**36 Incline my heart to your decrees *
and not to unjust gain.**

**37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; *
give me life in your ways.**

**38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, *
which you make to those who fear you.**

**39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, *
because your judgments are good.**

**40 Behold, I long for your commandments; *
in your righteousness preserve my life.**

Gospel Lesson: Luke 24:28-35

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

People: Glory to you Lord Christ

As Jesus and the two disciples came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you Lord Christ

HOMILY

Nicene Creed: *(Said aloud by all, in unison)* *BCP p. 358*

**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 Form IV:

Leader: *Let us pray for the Church and for the world.*

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for our Bishops Michael and Jennifer; in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer for The Diocese of Costa Rica – Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America; in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer for St. Michael & All Angels, in Tucson and for our Native American neighbors, especially the Apache and Pascua Yaqui who call this part of Arizona their home.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: *Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.*

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: *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

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: *Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.*

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: *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.*

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Presider: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Confession of Sin

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. (The people stand, sit, or kneel.)

All: 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.

Absolution

Presider: 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:

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you

All: And also with you.

The Offertory

Presider: Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

Then the Celebrant continues

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

**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..

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of our Mothers, Sarah, Rebecca, Leah and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. AMEN

Lord's Prayer

Celebrant : *As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,*

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

The Breaking of the Bread:

(Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept)

Presider: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia!**

Presider: 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 and with thanksgiving.

Everyone is welcome to come forward to receive the bread. Please observe social distancing. Extend your arm, palm open facing up to receive the bread. Move to the side 6ft to lower/raise your mask, eat the bread, replace your mask, and return to your seat.

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing Prayers, and Blessings

Post Communion Prayer

Presider: *Let us pray.*

All: O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction:

Presider: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you, and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face towards you and give you peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always **Amen.**

Dismissal

Presider: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?

People: **We are called to love and serve.**

Presider: Let us go forth, rejoicing in God's Spirit, alleluia, alleluia!

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

Of those six references, Aquila's name is mentioned first only twice: and one of the times on account of it being Paul's first encounter with them, probably through Aquila first. Priscilla's name is mentioned first on four occasions; this may indicate her equal status with her husband, or even possibly that Priscilla was thought of as the more prominent teacher and disciple. It has been suggested that Priscilla wrote the epistle to the Hebrews partly on this account.

[Acts 18:2-3](#): "There he became acquainted with a Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently arrived from Italy with his wife, Priscilla. They had left Italy when Claudius Caesar deported all Jews from Rome. Paul lived and worked with them, for they were tentmakers just as he was."

[Acts 18:18](#): "Paul stayed in Corinth for some time after that, then said good-bye to the brothers and sisters and went to nearby Cenchrea. There he shaved his head according to Jewish custom, marking the end of a vow. Then he set sail for Syria, taking Priscilla and Aquila with him."

[Acts 18:26](#): "When Priscilla and Aquila heard him preaching in the synagogue, they took him aside and explained the way of God even more accurately."

[Romans 16:3](#): "Give my greetings to Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in the ministry of Christ Jesus."

[1 Corinthians 16:19](#): "The churches here in the province of Asia send greetings in the Lord, as do Aquila and Priscilla and all the others who gather in their home for church meetings."

[2 Timothy 4:19](#): "Give my greetings to Priscilla and Aquila and those living in the household of Onesiphorus."

The couple

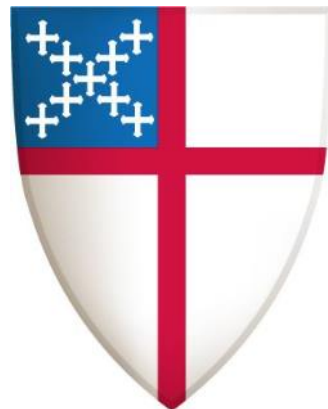
The Christian Church, beginning with Jesus, had a radical view of the status of women. Jesus demonstrated that he valued women and men equally as being made in the image of God. Luke clearly indicates Priscilla's "agency and her interdependent relationship with her husband. She is certainly not Aquila's property – as was customary in Greco-Roman society – but rather his partner in ministry and marriage".^[4]

Priscilla and Aquila were tentmakers as was Paul.^[5] Priscilla and Aquila had been among the [Jews](#) expelled from Rome by the [Roman Emperor Claudius](#) in the year 49 as written by [Sueto-nius](#). They ended up in [Corinth](#). Paul lived with Priscilla and Aquila for approximately 18 months. Then the couple started out to accompany Paul when he proceeded to [Syria](#), but stopped at [Ephesus](#) in the [Roman province of Asia](#), now part of modern [Turkey](#).

In [1 Corinthians 16:19](#), Paul passes on the greetings of Priscilla and Aquila to their friends in Corinth, indicating that the couple were in his company. Paul founded the church in Corinth. [\[1 Cor. 4:15\]](#) His including them in his greetings implies that Priscilla and Aquila were also involved in the founding of that church. Since 1 Corinthians discusses a crisis deriving from a conflict between the followers of Apollos and the *followers of Cephas* (possibly the apostle [Peter](#)), it can be inferred that Apollos accompanied Priscilla and Aquila when they returned to Corinth. This happened before 54, when Claudius died and the expulsion of the Jews from Rome was lifted.

[Continued online >>>](#)

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Welcome Visitor!!!

Please leave your name and contact info below. If you'd like to speak with someone, please check here

Or you can also use the QRC here to fill this out online.



Info Update Giving Envelopes Mail News Letter

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