



St. Paul's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**SECOND SUNDAY
OF EASTER**

The Rev. Sarah Phelps, Celebrant (9 am)
The Rev. Robert Fruehwirth, Celebrant (11:15 am)
Dr. Erica Ridderman, Homilist

**HOLY EUCHARIST
9 & 11:15 AM SERVICES
APRIL 12, 2026**

Prelude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

Please stand if able.

Processional

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!

Hymn 205

Liturgy of the Word

The Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

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 sung.

Gloria

Glory to God

Hymnal S278

(Organ)

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, — and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. — 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al - might - y God and
 Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise — you for your glo -
 ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, — Lord God,
 Lamb of God, 4. you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

(Organ)

6. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One,
 you a-lone are the Lord, 7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus

(Organ)

Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of
 God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
 People *And also with you.*
 Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated.

Children's Processional (9 am) All Things Bright and Beautiful (v. 1)
Children's Chapel is for children 3 years old through 5th grade.

Hymn 405

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

A Reading from Acts.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,
 for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
 moreover my flesh will live in hope.
 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
 or let your Holy One experience corruption.
 You have made known to me the ways of life;
 you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,
 nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

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

The Psalm

Psalm 16

- 1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; *
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord,
my good above all other."
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, *
upon those who are noble among the people.
- 3 But those who run after other gods *
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- 4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, *
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
- 5 O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; *
it is you who uphold my lot.
- 6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; *
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 7 I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; *
my heart teaches me, night after night.
- 8 I have set the LORD always before me; *
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
- 9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *
my body also shall rest in hope.
- 10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, *
nor let your holy one see the Pit.
- 11 You will show me the path of life; *
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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

*Please stand if able.***Gradual**

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

Hymn 203

*Remain standing.***The Gospel**

John 20:1-18

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

People remain standing until the homilist invites all to be seated.

Homily

Dr. Erica Ridderman

A moment of silence follows the homily.

Please stand if able.

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: 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.

Please stand if able.

Prayers of the People

People's Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Please stand if able.

Peace

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

BCP 360

Please be seated.

Welcome & Announcements

If you would like to donate online, follow the QR code found here or on the giving card in the back of the pews.

At the end of the announcements, you are also welcome to come forward to make a special donation to Heifer International, a non-profit organization whose mission is to end hunger and poverty, to mark an anniversary, blessing, or other event.



Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory

Christ is Alive
St. Paul's Choir (9 am), Voices of St. Paul's (11:15 am)

arr. Crawford Thoburn

*Christ, the Lord, is risen today,
All on earth with angels say,
Raise your joys and triumphs high,
Sing, ye heavens, and earth, reply, Alleluia!*

*Love's redeeming work is done,
Fought the fight, the battle won,
Death in vain forbids his rise,
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!*

*Lives again our glorious King,
Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Once He died our souls to save,
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!
Christ is arisen! Alleluia!*

Please stand if able while the offering is presented.

Offertory Response *All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee.*

The People remain standing. The Celebrant proceeds

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.*

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:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Hymn S128

(organ)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.

(organ)

Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Please stand or kneel if able.

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of 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 Savior 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 before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Memorial Acclamation

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant then continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray to 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 may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of 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 him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. AMEN.

The Celebrant then continues

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

Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

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.

Fraction Anthem

Christ Our Passover

Hymn S154

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

Christ our Pass-o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.

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

Holy Communion

The Celebrant says

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, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to come forward for communion, including children. Please follow the ushers' guidance as you come to the rail.

If you would like a gluten-free host, extend your hands palms down. If you would like to receive the wine by intinction (dipping the bread in the cup), keep the bread in your hands and wait for the communion server to come to you. If you would like to receive from the common cup (drinking from the cup directly), please consume the bread first and then make your way to the steps at the end of the rail. A communion server will be there with the common cup. If it is not your custom to receive communion, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing. Simply cross your arms across your chest and the minister will offer a prayer.

A priest may be available to provide prayers for healing in the back southwest corner of the church. Simply head to the back during communion distribution and wait for your turn.

The Communion Music

Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face
Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Hymn 318
Hymn 178

Spiritual Communion Prayer

For those worshiping with us online.

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Please stand or kneel if able.

Postcommunion Prayer

EOW 69

Celebrant and People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Please stand if able.

Recessional

That Easter Day with Joy was Bright

Hymn 193

Dismissal

BCP 366

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of my mother, Sarah Matthai, by Olivia Delahaye; and also for my wife, Melonie Wigley, by Bryan Wigley.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please wear your nametags when you're here at church! And if you don't yet have a nametag, please complete an order form in the narthex (lobby) so we can get you one!

New to St. Paul's? Welcome! Please let us know you are here by filling out a visitor card in the pew. Stop by our Connecting Station in the narthex (lobby) to chat and find materials that might help if you are new to St. Paul's or The Episcopal Church. Join a tour of our campus on the third Sunday in May to learn more and meet others. Contact Mary Kintz, our Community Connector, at mary.kintz@stpaulscary.org to find out more about us!

Accessibility: St. Paul's strives to make our services and programs comfortable and accessible to all. Ushers and Greeters are available to help. Please let us know how we can work together to improve your experience here.

Kids in Worship at St. Paul's: Children are always welcome in our worship services without exception, but if parents should wish for a space where your kids have more room to move around during the service, you are welcome to make use of the Comfort Room (glassed-in room at the rear of the worship space from which you can still hear and see the service). Ask an usher if you need help finding it. Also, our Kids' Club (free nursery care) is available during the 9 a.m. service, and infants/toddlers through 36 months (3 years old) are welcome to attend.

HAPPENING TODAY – APRIL 12, 2026

Children's Chapel: Children 3 years old through 5th grade are invited to process to Children's Chapel during the 9 a.m. service and will return to their families during announcements.

Coffee Hour (Parish Hall): Join us in expressing our gratitude for all the guidance, wisdom and care provided by our interim rector, the Rev. Sarah Phelps, as she celebrates her last Sunday with us.

Adult Forum (10:15-11 a.m.): No forum today as we celebrate with the Rev. Sarah Phelps during Coffee Hour.

Children's Sunday School - 5th grade and under (Ed. Bldg): Classes are meeting from 10:15-11 a.m.

Youth Sunday School - 6th thru 12th grade (Youth Wing): Classes are meeting from 10:15-11 a.m.

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC): Join us this evening from 5-7 p.m. for food, fun and conversation.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebrating the Ministry of the Rev. Sarah Phelps: Celebrate the ministry of our interim rector, the Rev. Sarah Phelps, and thank her for guiding us through this season of change. Stop by coffee hour to wish her well as she continues her ministry as Chaplain at Glenaire. Thank you for all your guidance, Mo. Sarah!

A New Chapter for Fr. Robert and Family: Fr. Robert Fruehwirth, our interim associate rector, also has news to share about what lies ahead for him and his family as they relocate to Virginia later in June. You can find more details about this transition on the St. Paul's website, and Fr. Robert will speak more about this in coming days.

Diocesan Advocacy Day Postcards: The Episcopal Diocese of NC will hold its annual Advocacy Day at the General Assembly this spring. As part of that event, parishioners from throughout the diocese are encouraged to write postcards to their state-level representative and senator about issues that are important to them. We have diocesan-designed postcards available during coffee hour this morning. Please plan on completing your postcard this morning; postcards from throughout the diocese will be collected and hand-delivered together.

Community Response Group Meeting Today: The next meeting of our Community Response Group will be today from 12:30-2 p.m. in the Youth Wing; we'll be combining our discussion with the Refuge for Refugees Ministry at St. Paul's. The Response Group supports those who are working in various community action groups, helping with advocacy and action around human rights issues, especially in the immigrant community. We are always open to folks who want to learn more. Contact Lynn Tovar at lztovar@uwalumni.com with questions.

Welcoming Our New Rector: Fr. Jay Weldon will be celebrating his first Sunday with us on April 26, and our vestry hospitality team is inviting all of us to participate in welcoming him and his family. We have greeting cards in the narthex if you would like to include a message from your household, perhaps including business/gift cards from local favorites, and maybe a photo to help them get to know you. We'll present the cards to the Weldons at Coffee Hour on April 26. We also have other ways you can help; stop by the counter in the narthex to see how you can help pack their pantry, drop off a meal or participate in other ways.

Easter Season Food Drive for Neighbor Up: Help us team up with other local churches to stock important pantry items for Neighbor Up. We've been assigned to bring spaghetti noodles, boxes of pasta and pasta sauce. Drop items in the box in the narthex beginning this week. This drive ends May 4.

Bishop's Visit and Confirmation – NOTE SERVICE TIME IS 10 A.M.: We are coming together as one body on Sunday, April 19 at 10 a.m. to celebrate with Bishop Sam Rodman as we all renew our baptismal vows and witness the rites of confirmation/reception into The Episcopal Church. Plan to stay after the 10 a.m. service for cake and coffee, and then attend a Bishop's Forum in the church at noon. We will also have the Rite I Eucharist service at 7:30 a.m. that morning.

Learn About the Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray With Us: The Racial Justice Planning Group is offering two opportunities in April to learn more about the Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray, recorded as the first Black woman to be ordained an Episcopal priest, and a leader in the Civil Rights and Women's Rights movements. On **April 19**, we will come together with EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) in the youth wing to watch and discuss the documentary "My Name is Pauli Murray." Unlike prior movie nights, we will watch the film together, gathering from 4:30 to 7 p.m. for the movie, dinner and discussion. On **April 25**, join us for a half-day retreat from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice, 906 Carroll Street, Durham. We will tour the newly restored center – originally Murray's family home – and take part in a facilitated retreat about Murray's life and legacy. This event is free to participants, thanks to generous support from the St. Paul's Endowment; however, gathering space inside the center is limited, so pre-registration is required. Registration link is provided on the St. Paul's website; contact Aleta McClenney, aleta@att.net, with questions.

Racial Equity Institute (REI) Training: The Racial Justice Planning Group and the Outreach Support Team are hosting a Racial Equity Institute (REI) Phase I training on May 14-15 at St. Paul's. REI's two-day workshop is designed to provide attendees with a vocabulary and historical framework for racism to better understand how it damages lives in all communities. The training is open to the public; financial scholarships are available through St. Paul's. Learn more on the St. Paul's website or by contacting Aleta McClenney at aleta@att.net.

On the Path to HECK (Humility, Empathy, Compassion and Kindness): On the Path to HECK is a small group course for adults built around four virtues that shape how we show up for each other every day: Humility, Empathy, Compassion, and Kindness. Across eight Sunday sessions in May and June, small groups of 8-10 participants will watch curated TED talks, share personal stories, and reflect together in a space free of judgment and debate. Between sessions, optional exercises keep you engaged with the week's theme on your own time. No experience required; just a willingness to grow. Spots are limited to two groups of eight participants. Find the registration link on the St. Paul's website or contact Tad Richard at tadrichard@gmail.com for more information.

Little Free Library: You may have noticed a new addition to the St. Paul's campus, a Little Free Library (LFL)! The library was recently installed by a local Boy Scout to complete his Eagle Scout Project with support from Jeff Kager, St. Paul's Racial Justice Planning Group, Rainbow Gathering, and Kevin and Ramsey McIntire. Please feel free to "take a book and share a book," and STAY TUNED for announcements coming soon about the naming and future focus of our LFL.

Next Steps: Welcoming Newcomers Forum on May 3: Join us on May 3 during the Adult Forum (10:20 a.m.) in the Chapel for an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about things that spark your interest. All are encouraged to attend, no matter how long you've been here, as we explore ways to connect with one another.

We pray for Dave, Bob, Ann, Vickie, Mary, Noah, Sally, Parrish, Janet, Nancy, Susan, Chuck, Craig, Jack, Wanda, Carter, Anne, Ethan, Sid, Mary Jo, Rebecca, Elizabeth, Ralph, Suzanne, Ryan, Mark, Gary, Johnnie, Kelly, Jessica, Hillary, Sydena, Vera, Sheri, Darren, Craig, Ted, Dylan, Anthony, Brad, Virginia, Carl, Judy, Sharon, Kay, Carl, Martha, Liz, Hilda, Cindy, Ben, Glenys, Kathy, Henry, Althea, Stan, Jan, Julie, Jennie, Greg, John, Zemiria, Henry, Martha, Kevin, Louise, Terri, Steve, Renee, Sean, Lauren, Lee, and Andy.

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News Updates

Worship. Serve. Grow.

Church Phone: 919-467-1477 Website: www.stpaulscary.org

The Rev. Sarah Phelps, Interim Rector
The Rev. Robert Fruehwirth, Interim Associate Rector
Dr. Erica Ridderman, Minister for Children, Youth, and Family Formation
The Rev. Candy Snively, Deacon
Russell McKinney, Director of Music Ministries
Carol Yeargin, Organist

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