

St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**NINTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

*The Rev. Dr. James Weldon, Jr.,
Celebrant & Homilist*

**HOLY EUCHARIST
10:00 A.M. SERVICE
JULY 26, 2026**

Prelude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

Please stand as you are able.

The Processional Hymn

"Glorious things of thee are spoken"

*The Hymnal 1982 #523
Abbot's Leigh*

The Word of God

The Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

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 Song of Praise

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation"

*The Hymnal 1982 #390
Lobe den Herren*

Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a tion; O my soul,
Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore him! All that hath
praise him, for he is thy health and sal - va - tion; join the great throng,
life and breath come now with prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men
psal - ter - y, or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
sound from his peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

The Collect of the Day

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

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; 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

"All things bright and beautiful" (v. 1)
Children's Chapel is for children 3 years old through 5th grade.

*The Hymnal 1982 #405
Royal Oak*

The First Reading

Genesis 29:15-28

A Reading from Genesis.

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 128, *Beati omnes*

Robert Knox Kennedy



- 1 Happy are they all who fear the / LORD, *
and who follow in his / ways!
- 2 You shall eat the fruit of your / labor; *
happiness and prosperity shall be / yours.
- 3 Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your / house, *
your children like olive shoots round about your / table.
- 4 The man who fears the / LORD *
shall thus indeed be / blessed.
- 5 The Lord bless you from / Zion, *
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your / life.
- 6 May you live to see your children's / children; *
may peace be upon / Israel.

The Second Reading

Romans 8:26-39

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Please stand as you are able.

The Gradual Hymn

“O Jesus, joy of loving hearts”

*The Hymnal 1982 #649
Dickinson College*

The Gospel

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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

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

The Homily

The Rev. Dr. James Weldon, Jr.

A moment of silence follows the homily.

Please stand as you are able.

The Nicene Creed

BCP 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.***

The Prayers of the People

Form IV (adapted)

BCP 388

People's Response: ***Hear our prayer.***

Confession & Absolution of Sin

BCP 360

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Please kneel or stand as you are able. The Celebrant and People say

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

BCP 360

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

Please be seated.

Welcome, Announcements, & Offertory Sentence

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.



The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Carol Yeargin, Organist

Please stand as you are able while the offering is presented.

The Offertory Response: The Doxology

Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea - tures here be - low;
praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

The People remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

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.

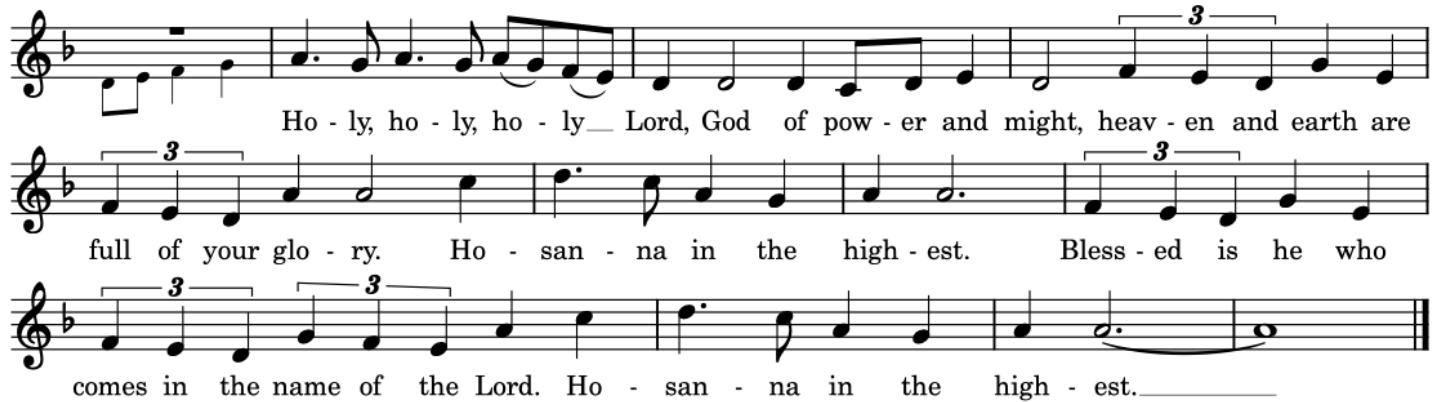
People

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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
The Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy

The Hymnal 1982 #S129



Please stand or kneel as you are able.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant then continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 for ever. **AMEN.**

The Celebrant then continues

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

The 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

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



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on__ us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on__ us.

Lamb of God____ you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Presentation & Invitation

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 with a pottery chalice. If you would like to drink from the chalice directly, please consume the bread first and a communion server will offer you the silver chalice (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 a priest will offer a blessing or a deacon will offer a prayer. A person 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.

Music During Communion

"Humbly I adore thee, Verity unseen"

The Hymnal 1982 #314

Adoro devote

"O Food to pilgrims given"

The Hymnal 1982 #309

O Welt, ich muss dich lassen

"If thou but trust in God to guide thee"

The Hymnal 1982 #635

Wer nur den lieben Gott

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

The Post-Communion Prayer

Enriching our Worship (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.

The Blessing

Please stand as you are able.

The Retiring Processional

"The Church's one foundation"

The Hymnal 1982 #525

Aurelia

The Dismissal

BCP 366

Deacon

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

GENERAL INFORMATION

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 the third Sunday of the month after the 10 a.m. service to learn more and meet others. Contact Mary Kintz, our Community Connector, at mary.kintz@stpaulscary.org to find out more about us!

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 10 a.m. service, and infants/toddlers through 36 months (3 years old) are welcome to attend.

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.

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!

HAPPENING TODAY – JULY 26, 2026

Children's Chapel: Children 3 years old through 5th grade are invited to process to Children's Chapel during the 10 a.m. service and will return to their families during announcements.

Favorite Hymn Discussion: During summer, members of the clergy or staff will lead a 20-minute discussion on one of the hymns included in Sunday's liturgy. Today, Deacon Erica will lead the discussion, and we will gather in the rear of the church 15 minutes after the conclusion of the 10 a.m. service.

Popsicles and Parables: All children are invited to the playground to hear a Bible story, eat popsicles, and enjoy time to play! We'll meet after the 10 a.m. service on the playground.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Schedule Continues Through Sept. 6: Services are 8 a.m. (Rite I) and 10 a.m. (Rite II) through Sept. 6.

Fun Prep Sessions for Vacation Bible Camp (VBC): Join our VBC coordinators in the parish hall after the 10 a.m. service today as we have fun making decorations and setting up for **#KidsConnect**, which starts tomorrow! Check out the poster in the narthex for details about all things VBC!

Youth Bible study at Chipotle: We have one more Youth Bible Study with Deacon Erica Ridderman this Wednesday, July 29 at Chipotle (100 Wrenn Dr. in Cary). Middle schoolers (rising 6th-8th) gather from 5:30-6:30 p.m., and high schoolers (rising 9th-12th) gather from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Bibles will be available, or you can bring your own. Chips and guac are on St. Paul's; feel free to purchase your own burritos or anything else. Hope to see y'all there!

"Brighter Days Ahead" Fundraiser: Thank you to those who have already donated to the Brighter Days Ahead project, bringing us halfway to our \$30,000 goal! Every donation will help refresh our most-used spaces, brighten our walls, and care well for the spaces God has entrusted to us. If you have walked through the narthex, met in the Youth Wing, or gathered in one of our offices, you will appreciate the importance of caring for these spaces. There's still time to donate by July 31 so we can complete this work before September!

Racial Justice Pilgrimage Information Session: Join the Racial Justice Planning Group on Sunday, Aug. 9 at 11:30 a.m. as we discuss a three-year pilgrimage cycle to important sites in our denominational and national history. We will gather in the chapel to gauge interest in justice-focused pilgrimages to Richmond, VA in 2027; Washington, DC in 2028; and Montgomery, AL in 2029. Attending these sessions does not commit you to participating but will help us gauge interest as we begin planning. Signing up in advance for the meeting is appreciated but not necessary (link on the St. Paul's website). RJPG is grateful to the St. Paul's Endowment for financial support as we prepare this new formational and community-building offering.

We Will Dwell in Safety - A Day of Prayer and Action: Faith leaders from across the area are joining together for "We Will Dwell in Safety," a day of prayer and action, on Saturday, Aug. 8 beginning at 10 a.m. at Halifax Mall in Raleigh. SiembraNC and a coalition of churches across the state are promoting solidarity through prayer as a first step in keeping us all safe as we adjust to new laws and enforcement policies around immigration. St. Paul's is organizing a group carpool/meet up for this event; we'll also gather on Thursday, Aug. 6 from 6-7:30 p.m. in the youth wing for a potluck and poster-making session ahead of the prayer vigil, if you're interested. Please contact Lynn Tovar (lztovar@uwalumni.com) if you would like to know more.

ONE Wake Affordable Housing Group: ONE Wake is working with folks directly impacted by the rising cost of housing in our area, seeking input and stories about how the pressure is affecting individuals and forcing them to make tough choices about where to live. If you (or someone you know) are struggling to stay here and fear being priced out, please contact ONE Wake Strategy Team member Mary Kintz (mary.kintz@stpaulscary.org) and consider becoming part of our discussion group. ONE Wake wants directly impacted people to be at the table with housing planners. Let's raise our voices together!

Mark Your Calendars for Lobster Fest on October 3: Mark your calendars for Saturday, Oct. 3 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the always fun, always delicious St. Paul's Lobster Fest! More information on how to order lobsters, lobster rolls and chicken dinners will be coming soon – along with details on how to join the team of volunteers making it all possible. Questions? Contact Vicki Bradley at vicki@lobsterfestcary.org.

We pray for Noah, Sally, Parrish, Janet, Nancy, Susan, Chuck, Carter, Anne, Ethan, Mary Jo, Judy, Carl, Martha, Henry, Althea, Jan, Zemiria, Henry, Louise, Terri, Lee, Andy, Benita, Mary, Sherry, Louane, Keith, Jimmy, Sharo, Claudia, Ethan, Mauricio, Allison, Theresa, Ben, Rich, Isabelle, Nancy, Kenny, Chris, Paige, Mary Martha, Jerry, Erika, Stacey, Lisa, Kay, Jack, Carl, Jan, Quinn, Travis, Zachary, Bob, Claudia, Marsha, Travis, Savannah, Kathryn, Stuart, Dick, Jackie, and Ted.

In the prayers for the deceased, we pray for Megan Viviani and Guy Vitaglione.

If you have a name you would like to include on the prayer list, or a ministry event that you would like to announce in this printed bulletin, please send information to announcements@stpaulscary.org. Names included in the prayer list will remain for a month, and we are happy to extend at your request. Please note that there is a 2-week lead time on printed announcements.



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Worship. Serve. Grow.
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The Rev. Dr. Erica Ridderman, Assistant Rector for Children, Youth, & Family Formation
The Rev. Candy Snively, Deacon
The Rev. Nathaniel Lee H.K. McKinney, Deacon
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