

St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

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

HOLY EUCHARIST
10:00 A.M. SERVICE
AUGUST 23, 2026

Prelude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

Please stand as you are able.

The Processional Hymn

"Christ is made the sure foundation"

*The Hymnal 1982 #518
Westminster Abbey*

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.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; 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

Exodus 1:8-2:10

A Reading from Exodus.

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 124, *Nisi quia Dominus*

Robert Knox Kennedy



- 1 If the LORD had not been on / our side, *
let Israel now / say;
- 2 If the LORD had not been on / our side, *
when enemies rose up a / gainst us;
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up a / live *
in their fierce anger / toward us;
- 4 Then would the waters have over / whelmed us *
and the torrent gone / over us;
- 5 Then would the raging / waters *
have gone right / over us.
- 6 Blessed be the / LORD! *
he has not given us over to be a prey for their / teeth.
- 7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the / fowler; *
the snare is broken, and we have es / caped.
- 8 Our help is in the Name of the / LORD, *
the maker of heaven and / earth.

The Second Reading

Romans 12:1-8

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Please stand as you are able.

The Gradual Hymn

"Be thou my vision"

*The Hymnal 1982 #488
Slane*

The Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

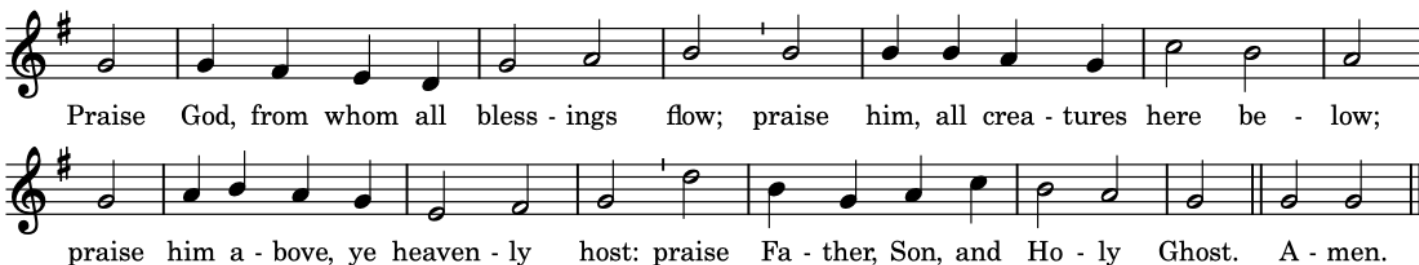
The Offertory

Carol Yeargin, Organist

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

The Offertory Response: The Doxology

Old 100th



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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of 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

The Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy

The Hymnal 1982 #S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. 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 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

**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

"Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendor"

*The Hymnal 1982 #307
Bryn Calfaria*

"Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord"

*The Hymnal 1982 #328
Song 46*

"Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness"

*The Hymnal 1982 #339
Schmücke dich*

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

"Come, thou fount of every blessing"

*The Hymnal 1982 #686
Nettleton*

The Dismissal

BCP 366

Deacon

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

*The Altar Flowers are offered to the glory of God and in memory of Pablo Fernando
by Myrna & Tom Belingon.*

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 – AUGUST 23, 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 H.K. McKinney will lead the discussion in the parish hall beginning 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

Fall Schedule Begins Sept. 13: Services will be 8 a.m. (Rite I), 9 a.m. (Rite II) and 11:15 a.m. (Rite II). Summer services are 8 a.m. (Rite I) and 10 a.m. (Rite II) through Sept. 6.

Lobster Fest Ordering is LIVE Now! Plus, You can Join our Volunteer Crews: You've loved our fresh lobsters and lobster rolls in the past, so let's do it all over again! Celebrate Lobster Fest with us on Saturday, Oct. 3. Ordering is now open; information about the menu and pricing is found on our flyers and online. We're also assembling our volunteer crews, a fun way to get to know folks while helping raise funds for ministries that bring hope, healing and practical support to our world. We have spots for a variety of ages and abilities; learn more about volunteering online, or by contacting Vicki Bradley at vicki@lobsterfestcary.org.

Annual Blessing of the Backpacks and School Year KickOff: During the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, Aug. 30, we invite all youth, children and teachers forward for a blessing (bring your backpacks) as we enter a new school year! Be sure to stay for an ice cream bar and special children's activities in the parish hall after the service. Come see your friends and meet new folks as well.

Online Fall Book Study Begins Sept. 2: Join us this fall Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m. on Zoom for a study of "The Universal Christ" by Richard Rohr. Drawing on scripture, history, and spiritual practice, Rohr articulates a transformative view of Jesus Christ as a portrait of God's constant, unfolding work in the world. The group will meet for 13 weeks beginning on Sept. 2, with an enrollment limit of 12 participants. Preference will be given those who have not participated in a St. Paul's study of this selection before; email Gerri Batchelor at gerrikairos@gmail.com to sign up.

RJPG Fall Book Discussion: Join the Racial Justice Planning Group to discuss "How the South Won the Civil War: Oligarchy, Democracy, and the Continuing Fight for the Soul of America" by Heather Cox Richardson. We will gather on Sunday, September 27 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in the annex. Feel free to bring your lunch. Please sign up in advance using the link provided in the Friday eNews, or look for a sign up on the church website soon.

Join our Fundraiser for Tools4Schools: This year, our VBC service project supported Tools4Schools, a program of WakeEd Partnership that provides free classroom supplies to Wake County Public School teachers. Our Children's Ministries would love to extend this project to the parish. Now through the end of August, we invite you to donate new school supplies to help support local teachers and students; drop them in the bin in the narthex. More details about needed items can be found online; contact Amy Wilson at awilsonUM@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Dads and Kids Greenway Walk: St. Paul's Men's Group is hosting the second annual "Dads and Kids Greenway Walk," on Saturday, Sept. 12, starting at 9 a.m. near the youth wing. Choose your own pace and distance and meet back at the church for popsicles and photos; all ages and abilities welcome! Come and share some time with other parents in a relaxed setting. Learn more on the parish website or by contacting Morris Hamilton at morrishamilton3@gmail.com.

Ministry Fair: Join us in the parish hall on Sept. 13 during coffee hour (10:15 a.m.) for a Ministry Fair! Representatives from our many ministries will be on hand to share stories and answer questions about what they do and how you can get involved. This is a great way to visit with friends as you share coffee and stories, whether you are new, visiting or just looking to connect. Contact Mary Kintz at mary.kintz@stpaulscary.org if your ministry wants to participate.

ONE Wake Fall Assembly – Affordable Housing Face to Face: ONE Wake's Homeownership to Equity Campaign takes a step forward in this assembly (Saturday, Sept. 19 at 1 p.m.) as we feature future homeowners and residents who are struggling to remain among us as neighbors. Hear their stories; listen as we present solutions to elected officials throughout Wake County. St. Paul's is pledging a large turnout, and we need your support; the event will be held at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Raleigh, so a carpool will be planned. Questions? Contact Christina Myers at chmyers5@gmail.com.

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, Chris, Paige, Mary Martha, Jerry, Erika, Stacey, Lisa, Kay, Jack, Carl, Jan, Quinn, Travis, Zachary, Bob, Claudia, Marsha, Travis, Savannah, Kathryn, Jackie, Ted, Renee, Xavier, Lambert, Scott, Sue, Kathy, and Barbara.

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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