



St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

NINETEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

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

HOLY EUCHARIST
9:00 A.M. SERVICE
OCTOBER 4, 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 Gloria: Glory to God

The Hymnal 1982 #280

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

The Collect of the Day

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

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Children's Processional

"I want to walk as a child of the light" (v.1)
Children's Chapel is for children 3 years old through 5th grade.

*The Hymnal 1982 #490
Houston*

The First Reading

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

A Reading from Exodus.

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:7-14, *Qui regis Israel*

Robert Knox Kennedy (b.1945)



- 7 Restore us, O God of / hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be / saved.
- 8 You have brought a vine out of / Egypt; *
you cast out the nations and / planted it.
- 9 You prepared the / ground for it; *
it took root and filled the / land.
- 10 The mountains were covered by its / shadow *
and the towering cedar trees by its / boughs.
- † 11 You stretched out its tendrils to the / Sea *
and its branches to the / River.
- 12 Why have you broken down its / wall, *
so that all who pass by pluck off its / grapes?
- 13 The wild boar of the forest has / ravaged it, *
and the beasts of the field have grazed up / on it.
- † 14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;
behold and tend this / vine; *
preserve what your right hand has / planted.

The Second Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

A Reading from the Letter to the Philippians.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

Please stand as you are able.

The Gradual Hymn

“Celtic Alleluia”

Finton O’Carroll (1922-1981)

Choir sings first time, congregation joins second time.



The Gospel

Matthew 21:33-46

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

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

Jesus said, “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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: A Gaelic Blessing

St. Paul's Choir

John Rutter (b.1945)

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.
Deep peace of Christ,
of Christ the light of the world to you.
Deep peace of Christ to you.

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

The Offertory Response: The Doxology

Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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 #S130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. 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. 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.**

Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God

The Hymnal 1982 #S164

Je - sus lamb of God: have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, bear - er
of our sins: have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, re - deem - er, re -
- deem - er of the world: give us your peace, give us your 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

"Let thy blood in mercy poured"

*The Hymnal 1982 #313
Jesus, meine Zuversicht*

"Father, we thank thee who hast planted"

*The Hymnal 1982 #302
Rendez à Dieu*

"This is the hour of banquet and of song"

*The Hymnal 1982 #316
Canticum refectionis*

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

"O love, how deep, how broad, how high"

*The Hymnal 1982 #448
Deus tuorum militum*

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

BCP 366

Postlude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I	10:15 a.m. Sunday School
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II	10:20 a.m. Adult Formation
10:05 a.m. Coffee Hour	11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

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 today after the 9 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 9 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.

Name Badges: One of the best ways to show hospitality in a community this size is to wear nametags. Please help us bridge the "unknowing" by wearing yours! If you don't yet have a nametag, please complete an order form in the narthex (lobby) so we can get you one. Contact Joyce Loughlin at loughlin1@mindspring.com with questions.

HAPPENING TODAY – OCTOBER 4, 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.

Children's Sunday School - 5th grade and under: Classes are meeting from 10:15-11 a.m. in the education building.

Youth Sunday School - 6th thru 12th grade: Classes are meeting from 10:15-11 a.m. in the youth wing.

Adult Forum: Join us at 10:20 a.m. in the chapel as we welcome the Rev. Timothy Kimbrough, director of the Anglican Episcopal House of Studies at Duke Divinity School, presenting "Stumbling on to Zion: Weakness as Strength in the Anglican Way." Next week: the Rev. Erica Ridderman, PhD, presents from her dissertation "When We Say God is Love."

Blessing of the Animals: Join us at 1:30 p.m. in the St. Paul's Courtyard (or parish hall if it's raining) for the annual Blessing of the Animals. Bring your pets, friends, neighbors...all are welcome.

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) 6th thru 12th grade: We are NOT meeting this evening. Please remember to join us next week, Oct. 11, for our walk to the Downtown Cary Park, starting at 5 p.m. from the youth wing. We will not be serving dinner; bring your own food to carry with you for our picnic at the park.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lobster Fest Thank You: Thank you to all who supported Lobster Fest yesterday with your labor, your participation, your purchases, and your prayers for our efforts - it all mattered! One measure of success is smiles and good vibes, and we had that in abundance! More information on the event will be available soon.

Call for Vestry Nominations: 2027 is going to be a very important year for St. Paul's! The vestry is the core elected lay leadership group of the parish, and those we elect in November will be part of the group that builds our vision with Fr. Jay as we move us forward together. The vestry meets monthly and gathers for an annual weekend retreat to accomplish the meaningful, necessary work that underpins all that happens at St. Paul's. All confirmed adult members in good standing are eligible to be nominated to serve on the vestry. Learn more about the work of the vestry by speaking with current vestry members (listed on our website). To nominate someone, or for any questions, please contact wardens@stpaulscary.org. The nomination period closes on Oct. 25.

A Stand for Dignity--People of Faith Raising Voices for Immigrants: The Wake Interfaith Immigration Network invites all to join in downtown Raleigh on Oct. 11 from 2-4 p.m. on the south lawn of the State Capitol for this community gathering for public witness. The program will feature interfaith prayer and song, along with speakers sharing perspectives on the immigrant experience and the call of faith. Free and open to all, with no registration required. Please contact Lynn Tovar at lztovar@uwalumni.com if you are interested in attending; we will arrange carpool options with advance notice.

REI (Racial Equity Institute) Phase I Training: St. Paul's will host Racial Equity Institute Phase I training for the community on Thursday and Friday, Oct. 15-16. St. Paul's folks – first timers and alum – are welcome. Thanks to the generosity of the Racial Justice and Reconciliation Committee of our diocese, scholarship funding is available. We will be able to cover half of the cost for new participants until those funds are exhausted. If financial support would help make this training more accessible to you, please reach out to aleta@att.net BEFORE registering. Find out more about REI training on the St. Paul's website.

Halloween Carnival Featuring Carnival Games, Chili, Trunk or Treat: Celebrate Halloween with us on Sunday, Oct. 25 from 5-7 p.m. on the church grounds. Activities will include youth-led carnival games and prizes, a Chili Cookoff in the parish hall (hotdogs and potluck, too), and Trunk or Treat! Everyone is welcome to participate. Ministries and groups of friends can decorate their car trunks and hand out candy, and anyone is welcome to enter the Chili contest! You can find the sign-up on the parish website.

Baptism at St. Paul's: Our next date for celebrating baptism at St. Paul's will be November 1. Please contact Natalie Sroka at natalie@stpaulscary.org if you need information about baptism for adults or children.

We pray for Sally, Janet, Carl, Martha, Chuck, Henry, Althea, Louane, Mauricio, Allison, Ben, Jack, Bob, Claudia, Marsha, Travis, Savannah, Kathryn, Jackie, Ted, Renee, Xavier, Lambert, Scott, Sue, Kathy, Barbara, Larry, Zachary, Ken, Carter, Anne, Kevin, Jon, Kathleen, Farley, Jenna, Sophie, Tim, the Jackson family, Stephen, and Laurie.

In the prayers for the deceased, we pray for Dorian Jackson and Judy Caster.

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.



News Updates

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Worship. Serve. Grow.

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