St. Paul's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
CHRIST THE KING

The Rev. Dr. James Weldon, Jr., Celebrant
The Rt. Rev. Scott Anson Benhase, Homilist

HOLY EUCHARIST
9:00 A.M. SERVICE
NOVEMBER 22, 2026

Prelude Carol Yeargin, Organ

Please stand as you are able.

The Processional Hymn "At the Name of Jesus" *The Hymnal 1982* #435
King's Weston

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



The Collect of the Day

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

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

Please be seated.

Children's Processional "I sing a song of the saints of God" (v.1) *The Hymnal 1982* #293
Children's Chapel is for children 3 years old through 5th grade. *Grand Isle*

The First Reading Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

A Reading from Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

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

Psalm 100, *Jubilate Deo* Robert Knox Kennedy (b. 1945)



1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you / lands; *
serve the LORD with gladness
and come before his presence with a / song.

2 Know this: The LORD himself is / God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his / pasture.

3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with / praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his / Name.

4 For the LORD is good;
his mercy is ever / lasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to / age.

The Second Reading Ephesians 1:15-23

A Reading from the Letter to the Ephesians.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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)



The Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

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

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal teeth.'"

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 Rt. Rev. Scott Anson Benhase

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

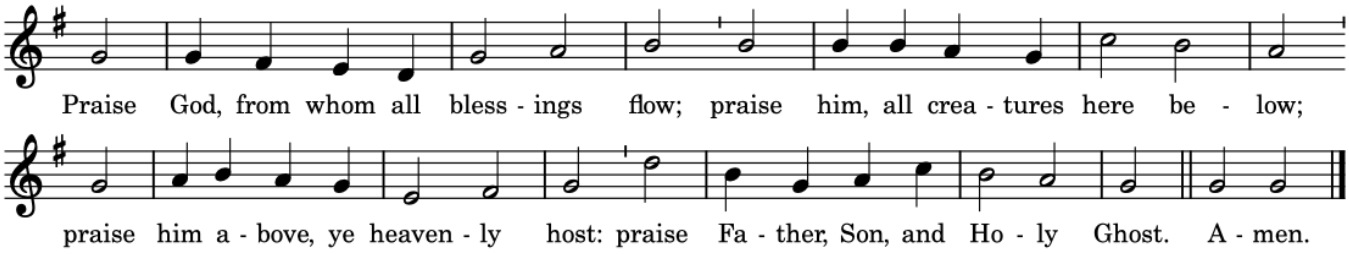
The Offertory: *Prayer* *St. Paul's Choir* Mark Schweizer (1956-2019)

King of glory, King of peace, I will love thee;
and that love may never cease, I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request, thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my working breast, thou hast spared me.

Wherefore with my utmost art I will sing thee,
and the cream of all my heart I will bring thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort to enroll thee:
e'en eternity's too short to extol thee.

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

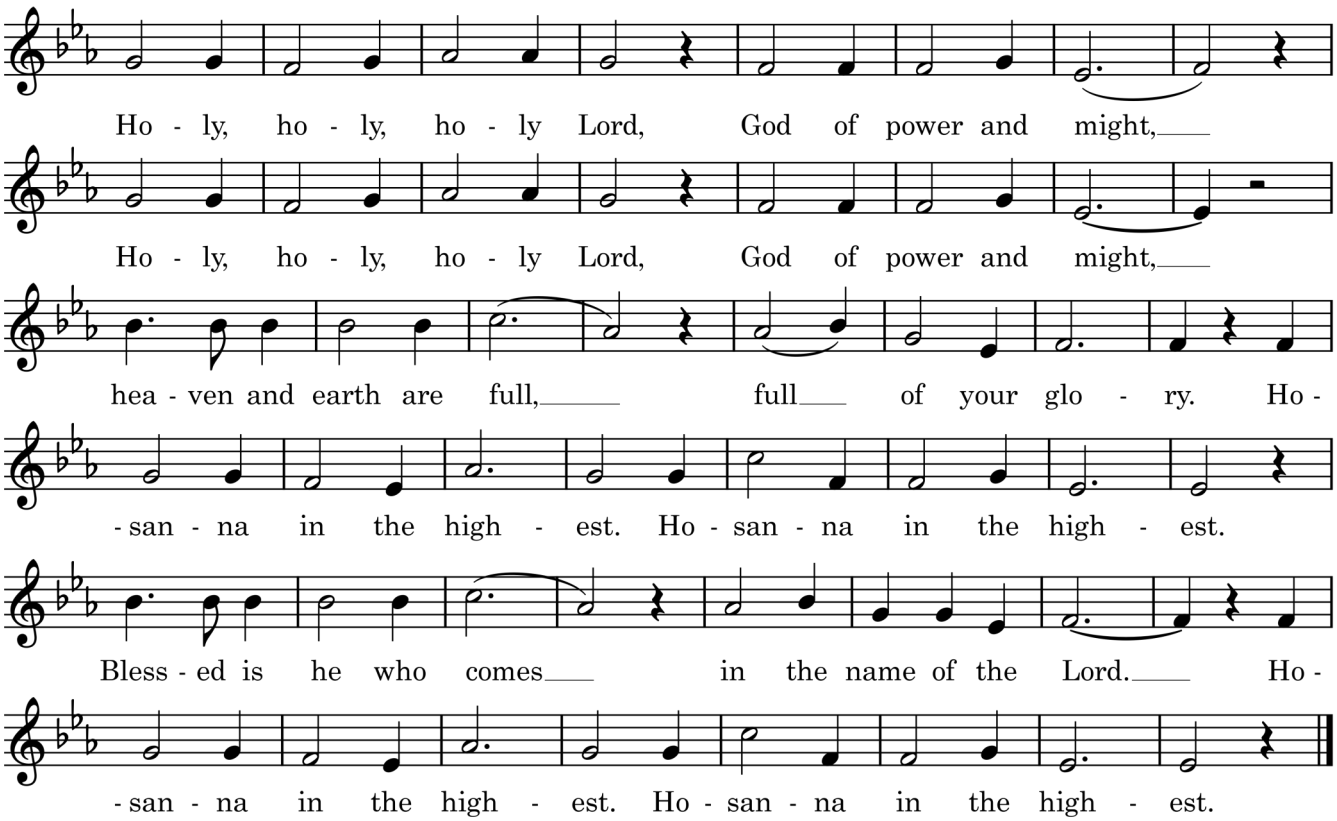
The People remain standing.The Celebrant faces them and says

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. Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your children, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth 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



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.

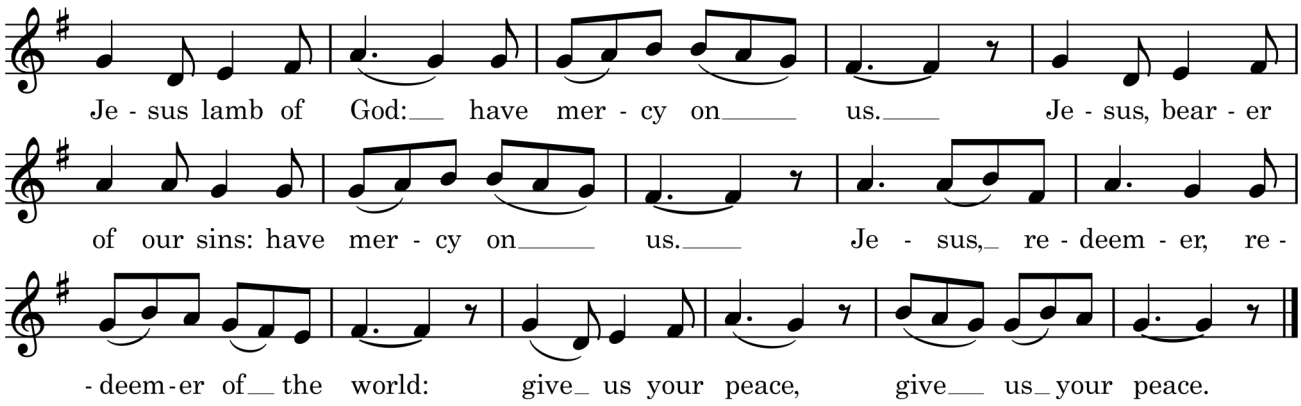
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

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



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:

"Now thank we all our God" *The Hymnal 1982* #397 *Nun danket alle Gott*

"Come, ye thankful people, come" *The Hymnal 1982* #290 *St. George's Windsor*

"We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing" *The Hymnal 1982* #433 *Kremser*

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 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!" *The Hymnal 1982* #460 *Hyfrydol*

The Dismissal *BCP* 366

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Postlude Carol Yeargin, Organ

The Altar Flowers are offered to the glory of God and in memory of her brother, Clarence Matthai, by Olivia Delahaye.

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. Annual Meeting
10:05 a.m. Coffee Hour (Chapel) 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 or online. 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 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 – NOVEMBER 22, 2026

Welcome our Guest Homilist, the Rt. Rev. Scott Allen Benhase: Bishop Benhase, retired bishop of Georga and former vicar of St. Cyprian's in Oxford, NC, is preaching at all three services today. Bishop Benhase is a member of the Order of the Ascension, a Benedictine Order in The Episcopal Church, and author of "Done and Left Undone: Grace in the Meantime of Ministry."

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

Coffee Hour and Children's Snacks: This morning's coffee will be set up in the Chapel after the 9 a.m. service; children's snacks will be available in the Parish Hall. Thank you to the vestry for taking care of us this morning.

Annual Meeting and Vestry Elections: Join us in the Chapel at 10:15 a.m. the Annual Meeting and vestry election. Information about vestry candidates is available in the narthex.

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.

Rainbow Gathering Friendsgiving: Gather with us today at 12:30 p.m. in the Annex in gratitude, fellowship, and love for our Friendsgiving celebration! Share delicious food, joyful moments, and thankful hearts as we celebrate the blessing of community.

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) 6th thru 12th grade: Join us from 5-7 p.m. for Friendsgiving with our friends at Cary Presbyterian Church. Meet in the St. Paul's Youth Wing at 5 p.m. and we'll walk over together. Pick up is at 7 p.m. at Cary Presbyterian.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebration of New Ministry Nov. 30: Bishop Sam Rodman will be at St. Paul's for a Celebration of New Ministry, to celebrate our new clergy team and instituting Fr. Jay as our rector, on Monday, Nov. 30 at 7 p.m. The entire congregation is encouraged to take part in this celebration with clergy from across the area as we prayerfully commit to the shared ministry of clergy and lay people, sustaining each other with our gifts and talents. Childcare is available; a reception will follow the service.

Visit the St. Nicholas Giving Tree: The St. Nicholas Tree is in the narthex, ready for you to select tags and do your shopping! The tree is full of tags; red tags are grouped by family. Find information on the St. Nicholas website to guide your shopping; use the QR Code on the tag to find your way. Remember, all gifts should be brought to the church on or before Dec. 6, when

St. Nicholas makes his annual visit at both the 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services. Monetary donations (supporting ministry costs and need-based supplemental gifts) are welcome; please indicate "St Nick" in the memo. Contact Colette Hibberd at hibberdfamily@yahoo.com for assistance.

Intergenerational Advent Gathering Nov. 29: Our Children's Ministries is hosting a parish-wide, intergenerational event from 10:15-11 a.m. in the Parish Hall on the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 29. Enjoy a cookie potluck (bring your favorite to share, if you'd like) and we'll have an Advent craft, card-making, and resources for observing Advent at home. Contact Amy Wilson at awilsonUM@gmail.com for more information.

Bishop Search Diocesan Survey: The Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina has begun the process of searching for our next leader as Bishop Sam Rodman is set to retire in early 2028. The Search Committee invites all members of the diocese, clergy and lay, to participate in a survey as part of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina's season of listening and discernment. Your participation will help us discern the qualities and leadership needed as we seek our next bishop. The survey link can be found on the diocesan website; deadline is Dec. 1.

Donate a Christmas Poinsettia: Donate a poinsettia to honor the special people in your life! Christmas poinsettia envelopes are available now in the pews. Fill out the envelope with your name and the information about your loved one(s), noting whether it is given in memory of or in thanksgiving for them. Enclose $35 per plant; drop the envelope in the collection plate or in the office by December 13; plants may be taken home after the 10 a.m. Christmas Day service.

Advent Midweek Eucharist: Join us for Holy Eucharist services on Wednesdays during Advent, beginning Dec. 2. We will offer two services, noon and 7 p.m., both taking place in the Chapel. Please join us for this special time of prayer and reflection amid our busy days.

Advent Quiet Day: On Saturday, Dec. 5, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Rev. Robert Fruehwirth returns to lead an Advent Quiet Day, "Prepare the Way: Essential Spiritual Practices for Welcoming God Everyday." Jesus was born over 2000 years ago, but the life of Christ is born anew in us, every day, as we open our lives to welcome God. Retreatants will be guided through the core elements of Christian spiritual practice — silent waiting on God, meditation on scripture, growing self-knowledge, discernment of God's call, and recollected action. Learn more about this day in the narthex and register online.

Advent Lessons and Carols: Plan to join us on Sunday, Dec. 6 at 4 p.m. as the St. Paul's Choir and the Bells of St. Paul's present the service of Advent Lessons and Carols, led by Director of Music Ministries Rusty McKinney, accompanied by Organist Carol Yeargin. Come join us for an afternoon of beautiful music and scripture readings in the Anglican Tradition. A reception follows in the narthex (lobby).

St. Francis Christmas Tree Sale: The Christmas Tree sale at St. Francis United Methodist Church in Cary is a local holiday tradition, with proceeds supporting the mission and ministries of the church, serving our local community and beyond. We share common ground with St. Francis in many ways, working together through ONE Wake, the Appalachia Service Project (ASP) and our joint support of one another's big events (they love our lobsters). The tree lot is now open. Please consider purchasing a tree or wreath, harvested fresh from western NC, by visiting their lot (2965 Kildaire Farm Rd) or by ordering on their website. Weekend delivery is available. Details are found on the St. Francis website.

Office Closed: The church office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday, Wednesday thru Friday, Nov. 25-27. If you require pastoral assistance during that time, please contact the on-call clergy line at 919-439-9657.

We pray for Janet, Carl, Martha, Henry, Althea, Louane, Carter, Anne, Jon, Patrick, Barbara, Ann, Rob, Betty, Jim, Zemiria, Henry, Carol, Evelyn, Stephanie, Liam, Bob, Carol, Frank, Sylvia, Mike, Juan, William, Gopalakrishnan, Archie, Dave, Laurinda, Laura Ann, Leslie, Bill, Edna, George, Mary Leigh, Jim, Blanche, and Carlette. **In the prayers for the deceased**, we pray for Sue Dianne Kenney.

To add a name to the prayer list, or to promote a ministry event in this printed bulletin, please send information to announcements@stpaulscary.org. Names included in the prayer list will remain for a month. Please contact Natalie Sroka or a member of the clergy if the need for prayer is ongoing. Note that there is a 2-week lead time on printed announcements.

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

The Rev. Dr. James Weldon, Jr., Rector — x 13 | jweldon@stpaulscary.org
The Rev. Dr. Erica Ridderman, Deacon, Assistant Rector for Children, Youth, & Family Formation — x 39 | erica@stpaulscary.org
The Rev. Angela Shelley, Associate Rector — x 12 ashelley@stpaulscary.org
The Rev. Nathaniel Lee H.K. McKinney, Deacon — hkmckinney@stpaulscary.org
Mary Kintz, Community Connector — x 17 | mary.kintz@stpaulscary.org
Russell McKinney, Director of Music Ministries — x 15 | rusty.mckinney@stpaulscary.org
Jeff Kager, Facilities Manager — x 55 | jeff.kager@stpaulscary.org
Brandy Satterfield, Financial Manager — x 36 | brandy.satterfield@stpaulscary.org
Laura Gorman, Kids Club Director — x 18 | laura@stpaulscary.org
Natalie Sroka, Office Administrator — x 10 | natalie@stpaulscary.org
Carol Yeargin, Organist — carol.yeargin@stpaulscary.org
Brooke Bowersox, Preschool Director — x 16 | brooke.bowersox@stpaulscary.org