



St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE PRESENTATION
OF OUR LORD

The Rev. J. Carr Holland III, Celebrant
The Rev. Stephanie Yancy, Homilist

HOLY EUCHARIST
9:00 A.M. SERVICE
FEBRUARY 2, 2025

Prelude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

Processional

Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Hymn 7

Liturgy of the Word

Opening Acclamation

The Celebrant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be his 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 following is sung.

Gloria

Glory to God

Hymnal S278

(Organ)

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

(Organ)

6. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One,
 you a-lone are the Lord, 7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus
 Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of
 God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Collect of the Day

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

Almighty Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Children's Processional

All Things Bright and Beautiful (Vs. 3)
Children's Chapel is for children 3 years old through 5th grade.

Hymn 405

First Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

A Reading from Malachi.

Thus says the LORD, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the LORD whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

The Psalm

Psalm 84

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
 My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
 my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
 and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
 by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
 my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
 they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
 whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
 for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *

and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O LORD of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!

Second Reading

Hebrews 2:14-18

A Reading from Hebrews.

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

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

Gradual

O Gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ (Vs. 1 & 3)

Hymn 26

Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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

Homily

The Rev. Stephanie Yancy

Nicene Creed

All who are able, stand.

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.

Prayers of the People

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

Confession of Sin and Absolution

BCP 360

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All who are able, kneel. Minister and People

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 Priest 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.*

Peace

BCP 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

Announcements

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

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

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory

Nunc Dimittis: Dorian Mode
St. Paul's Choir

Thomas Tallis

*Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.*

Offertory Response

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

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

The people remain standing.

The Celebrant proceeds.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People *It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

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 the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son 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:

Sanctus

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Hymnal S128

The musical score is written for four staves. The first staff is for the organ, marked '(organ)', and the second and fourth staves are for the vocal parts. The third staff is also for the organ, marked '(organ)'. The music is in 4/4 time and G major. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven 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.'

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Memorial Acclamation

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant then continues

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

We pray to you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

The Celebrant then continues

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

Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Christ Our Passover

Hymnal S154

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

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

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

Holy Communion

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

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

If you would like to receive the wine by intinction (dipping the bread in the cup), keep the bread in your hands and wait for the communion server to come to you.

If you would like to receive from the common cup (drinking from the cup directly), please consume the bread first and then make your way to the steps at the end of the rail. A communion server will be there with the common cup.

If it is not your custom to receive communion, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing. Simply cross your arms across your chest and the minister will offer a prayer.

A priest is also 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.

If you are at home or otherwise unable to take communion, you may say the following prayer.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

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

The Communion Music

How Lovely is Thy Dwelling-Place
Sing of Mary, Pure and Lowly

Hymn 517

Hymn 277

Final Prayer

Celebrant and People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food as we hear your Word proclaimed and gather at your holy Table. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

Recessional

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Hymn 436

Dismissal

Deacon

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude

Carol Yeargin, Organist

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in thanksgiving for the St. Paul's Community,
by Shannon, Randall, and Abigail Robinson.

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TODAY – FEBRUARY 2, 2025

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 Welcome Station in the narthex (lobby) to chat with Greeters and find materials that might help if you are new to St. Paul's or The Episcopal Church. Join a tour of our campus on the third Sunday of the month to learn more and meet others. Contact Mary Kintz, our Community Connector, at mary.kintz@stpaulscary.org to learn more about us!

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

Coffee Hour (Parish Hall): Hosted this week by the Outreach Support Team. Join us after the 9 a.m. service for coffee and conversation.

Adult Formation (Chapel, 10:15-11 a.m.): Our series *The Gospel According to Luke* continues today with "Galilean Ministry (Luke 5-9)" presented by Fr. Javier.

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

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

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC): Meets this evening for fun and fellowship from 5-7 p.m. in the Youth Wing.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Giving Envelopes: Those who ordered weekly or monthly giving envelopes as part of their stewardship pledge will find envelopes on the counter in the narthex. Please pick them up as you leave today.

Write a Postcard for Advocacy Day 2025: Advocacy Day is an opportunity for the bishops of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina to visit with state legislators at the North Carolina General Assembly and share messages of encouragement and concern from our voices. You can participate directly by writing a postcard to your elected officials and having the cards hand delivered by the bishops. Postcards and instructions are available in the narthex and at Coffee Hour; cards must be completed by March 1 to be included with the diocesan project.

Youth Dinner Theater Auditions: The Murder Mystery Dinner Theater will be presented by St. Paul's Youth on Sunday, Mar. 16, and we have opportunities for youth and adults to participate as performers and support crew. Auditions for performing roles will take place on Feb. 9 at noon in the Parish Hall; please sign up for an audition time in advance. Details about auditions can be found on the St. Paul's website or by contacting Ben Bricio at youth@stpaulscary.org.

Card Making and Cookies Next Sunday: Please join us in the Parish Hall during coffee hour on Feb. 9 to enjoy fresh baked cookies and make Valentine's Day cards! The Children's Ministries Committee will share your cards with residents of Glenaire that afternoon. Enjoy a sweet time of fellowship while sharing your creativity with others. All are welcome!

Note in the Pocket Clothing Drive: St. Paul's Pre-EYC families (4th and 5th graders) are supporting Note in the Pocket with a month-long clothing drive, now through Feb. 16. Bring new or gently used, school-appropriate clothing donations in all sizes, infant through adult; these drives clothe referred students and their entire families. **Coats are among items currently needed, along with children's clothing sizes 8-16.** The dropbox and more information are in the narthex. If you have questions, please contact Shannon Robinson at shannon3b@gmail.com.

Support the Youth Souper Bowl Food Drive: St. Paul's Youth will be canvassing the neighborhood around Union Street during EYC on Feb. 2nd and 9th, collecting canned and nonperishable food for their annual Souper Bowl project, benefitting the food pantry at Dorcas ministries. All are invited to contribute items by dropping them in the Youth Wing; a list of most needed items can be found on the narthex bulletin board and on the St. Paul's website.

Join the Prayer Stitchers Ministry: St. Paul's Prayer Stitchers is open to all, regardless of talent level or time commitment. Since 2009, we have knitted and crocheted items for those in need of hope and kindness. We meet in the Youth Wing every Wednesday from 10 a.m.-noon for encouragement, idea sharing and fellowship. Drop-ins are welcome. Please contact Beth Barnes at prayerstitchers@stpaulscary.org if you have any questions.

Youth Winter Retreat at Camp Kanuga: Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to a weekend at Camp Kanuga in beautiful Hendersonville, NC from February 15-17th. Together we will enjoy hiking, snow tubing, and some time for fellowship and reflection. Cost is \$200 per person; sign up by Feb. 8 through the website, or by emailing Youth Coordinator Ben Bricio at youth@stpaulscary.org. Financial assistance is available and anonymous; email Fr. Carr at jcarrholland@stpaulscary.org.

Pre-EYC Retreat to Nature: Pre-EYC is hosting an overnight Retreat to Nature on March 22-23 at Blue Jay Point Park in Raleigh, staying at the Blue Jay Lodge. Learn about the plants and animals, explore trails, play and enjoy s'mores around the campfire with us! This fun event is open to all 4th and 5th graders, including newcomers! Cost is \$30 per person and scholarships are available. Register by Feb. 28th via the online link using the flyer in the narthex. Questions? Contact Jacob Nelson at jacobnelson77@hotmail.com.

Put Vacation Bible Camp (VBC) on Your July Calendars: Save the dates: July 14-18th, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. During VBC, *Waves of Wonder*, children will be inspired by the beauty and majesty of what God has made. Through drama, art, science explorations and games, we'll deepen their understanding of the importance of water and how we might join God in caring for this precious natural resource. More info about volunteering to help with this church-wide effort is coming soon!

Prayer List: Dave, Bob, Ann, Vickie, Ann, Laura, Margaret, Mary, Virginia, Doug, Guy, Katie, Cathy, Alan, Jessica, John, Mary, Susan, Clarence, Susan, Mila, Florence, Noah, Sally, Chase, John, Janice, John, Randy, Mary, Regina, Nathanael, Lisa, Parrish, Matias, Yosi, Trudy, Lorraine, Ralph, Judy, Jackie, Christy, Marty, Gary, Lou, Steven, Bonnie, Olive, Randall, Becky, Connor, Carter, Henry, Gary, Jessica, Martha, Joe, Rich, Jen, Jack, Louane, Ted, Barb, Peggy, Joy, Anne, Donna, Tim, Hope, Alexis, Marty, and Janet.

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.



St. Paul's Website