

THE THIRD SUNDAY
IN LENT

The Rev. J. Carr Holland III, Celebrant The Rev. Stephanie Yancy, Homilist 9:00 A.M. SERVICE MARCH 23, 2025

Prelude Processional Carol Yeargin, Organist

Come, We That Love the Lord

Hymn 392

Liturgy of the Word

Penitential Order

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 351

The Celebrant says

Blessed be the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures forever.

The Celebrant says

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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*.



Celebrant The People An Celebrant Left

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

Children's Processional

Fairest Lord Jesus (v. 1)

Hymn 383

Children's Chapel is for children 3 years old through 5th grade.

First Reading

Exodus 3:1-15

A Reading from Exodus.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you." God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

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

The Psalm Psalm 63:1-8

- O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; * my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, * that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; * my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live * and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, * and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 When I remember you upon my bed, * and meditate on you in the night watches.
- 7 For you have been my helper, * and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 My soul clings to you; * your right hand holds me fast.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

A Reading from First Corinthians.

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge

in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

Gradual Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church (vv. 1 & 2) Hymn 149

Gospel Luke 13:1-9

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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

Homily The Rev. Stephanie Yancy

Nicene Creed

People

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, have mercy.

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 Wondrous Love arr. Carson P. Cooman St. Paul's Choir

What wondrous love is this, O my soul! O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse,
for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, sinking down; when I was sinking down, when I was sinking down, beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

to God and to the Lamb,
I will sing, I will sing.
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing.
to God and to the Lamb,
who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing.
While millions join the theme,
I will sing!

Offertory Response

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

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

The people remain standing. The Celebrant proceeds.

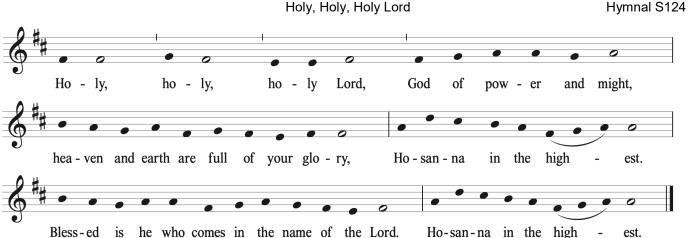
Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.

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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. 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



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:

Memorial Acclamation

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,

Lord's Praver

People and Celebrant

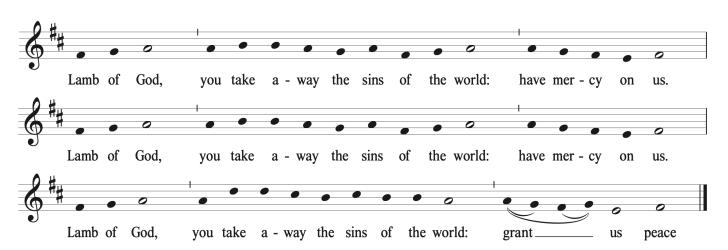
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

BCP 364

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem Lamb of God Hymnal S161



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

O Food to Pilgrims Given For the Bread Which You Have Broken

Hymn 309 Hymn 341

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

The Celebrant says

Bow down before the Lord.

The people kneel and the Celebrant says

Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Recessional O Bless the Lord, My Soul Hymn 411

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude Carol Yeargin, Organist

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Church Phone: 919-467-1477 Web Site: www.stpaulscary.org

The Rev. Sarah Phelps, Interim Rector

The Rev. Javier E. Almendárez-Bautista, Senior Associate Rector

The Rev. J. Carr Holland III, Bridge Priest The Rev. Stephanie Yancy, Bridge Priest The Rev. Antoinette Wike, Priest Associate The Rev. Candy Snively, Deacon

Russell McKinney, Minister of Music Carol Yeargin, Organist x 13 | sarah@stpaulscary.org x 12 | javier@stpaulscary.org x 39 | jcarr.holland@stpaulscary.org x 39 | stephanie.yancy@stpaulscary.org tony.wike@stpaulscary.org candy.snively@stpaulscary.org x 15 | rusty.mckinney@stpaulscary.org carol.yeargin@stpaulscary.org

TODAY – MARCH 23, 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 at 10:15 a.m. to learn more and meet others. Contact Mary Kintz, our Community Connector, at mary.kintz@stpaulscary.org to find out more about us!

Kids' Club (Education Building): Our Kids' Club (nursery) is available during the 9 a.m. service through Coffee Hour; infants/toddlers through 36 months (3 years old) are welcome to attend.

Children's Chapel: Children 3 years old through 5th grade are invited to process to Children's Chapel during the 9 a.m. service for our Lenten program "Animal Crackers," designed by Heifer International. We'll return to our families during announcements.

Coffee Hour (Parish Hall): Please join us after the 9 a.m. service for a festive Communion Class Celebration hosted by the Children's Ministry Committee.

Adult Formation (Chapel, 10:15-11 a.m.): Our series *Spiritual Renewal in Lent* continues today with "Acting on our Faith through Service: Relationships and Boundaries" presented by Celia Hartnett, MSW, LCSW and the Rev. Dr. Cathy Deats.

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.

Pre-EYC (4th and 5th graders): The overnight retreat at Blue Jay Point County Park is happening this weekend (March 22-23). Thanks to the Pre-EYC Committee & volunteers for making this special trip happen! Let's keep them in our prayers as they bond and grow in love for God and creation.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Midweek Lenten Contemplative Eucharist: This Lent, join the clergy for contemplative Eucharist services on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Chapel. We will use the Sunday readings for Lent as our guide and have ample time for meditation and reflection. All are welcome.

Hermano Day 2025: This year, we are supporting the Episcopal Farmworker Ministry (EFWM) Mattress Swap Project as they try to improve living conditions for workers who labor in NC fields to pick our crops. Every \$250 donated buys a new mattress set to replace mattresses in horrible conditions. A generous parishioner has offered to match funds for the first ten mattresses donated. Double your impact by giving online or with checks, putting "EFWM mattresses" in the memo line. The new director of EFWM will be with us on Sunday, Mar. 30; contact Katie Bricio at katiebricio13@gmail.com with any questions.

Refuge for Refugees Ministry Update: Layoffs at the Raleigh office of the US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) are affecting caseworkers for those receiving services in our area. St. Paul's Refuge for Refugee Ministry is currently assisting a Congolese family who arrived in January, mainly with providing transportation to appointments. We are looking to expand our volunteer list as we anticipate other needs surfacing as services are cut. If you would like to learn more about how you can directly serve refugee families in our area, please contact Ann Lockhart and Deb Richard at refugeforrefugees@stpaulscary.org.

Easter Lily Donations: Donate an Easter lily for our Easter services to honor the special people in your life. Envelopes are available now in the pews. Fill out the envelope with your name and information about your loved one(s), noting whether the donation is given in memory or for thanksgiving. Enclose \$35 per plant; drop the envelope in the collection plate or by the office by April 6. A link is provided for those who wish to donate online. Thank you for your generosity. You may take your lily home after the last service on Easter Day.

Sign Up for Men's and Women's Beach Weeks: St. Paul's has a tradition of offering fellowship and relaxation for adults at Emerald Isle each spring, with men attending April 20-27 this year, and the women gathering the following week, April 27-May 4. You can come for a few days or for the whole week; arrangements vary based on the number of participants. Both groups are very welcoming of newcomers and would love to share more details about the fun with you! Sign ups are closing soon; men, please contact Mike McInerney at mbw@stpaulscary.org; women, contact Yvon Daniel at yvdaniel60@gmail.com. More details are available on flyers in the narthex and on the St. Paul's website.

Spaghetti Dinner Benefitting Appalachia Service Project (ASP): Mark Friday, Apr. 11, 6-8 p.m. as a night out to enjoy fellowship and support our youth outreach with ASP. Learn about the impact of this work on both youth and adults as they serve pasta topped with the Men's Group's delicious sauce. Youth who are participating in the trip are expected to help; middle school youth and adults are welcome to volunteer as well. Find the sign up and learn more on the St. Paul's website, or by contacting asp@stpaulscary.org.

Easter Egg Hunt: Join us after the 9 a.m. service on Easter Day for an Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the Children's Ministry Committee! Children of all ages are welcome. Help support this event by donating individually packaged candy treats or Easter-themed items like stickers or colored pencils. Donations can be dropped in the box in the narthex through Palm Sunday, April 13.

Prayer List: Dave, Bob, Ann, Vickie, Ann, Laura, Margaret, Mary, Virginia, Doug, Guy, Katie, Cathy, Alan, Jessica, John, Mary, Susan, Clarence, Susan, Florence, Noah, Sally, Chase, John, Janice, John, Randy, the Lytvinenko Family, Mary, Regina, Nathanael, Lisa, Parrish, Matias, Yosi, Lorraine, Jackie, Christy, Randall, Becky, Connor, Carter, Martha, Joe, Rich, Jen, Jack, Louane, Ted, Barb, Peggy, Joy, Anne, Donna, Tim, Hope, Alexis, Marty, Janet, Austin, Kelle, Jennifer, Liddy, Clay, Ashley, Dolly, Jill, and Mary.

In the prayers for the deceased, Gloria Moncelle, wife of Harry Moncelle and mother of Sarah Moncelle.

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.

