

THE FIRST SUNDAY
IN LENT

The Rev. Sarah Phelps, Celebrant
The Rev. Javier E. Almendárez-Bautista, Homilist

9:00 A.M. SERVICE MARCH 9, 2025

Prelude Processional Carol Yeargin, Organist

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

Hymn 448

Liturgy of the Word

Penitential Order

The Celebrant says

Blessed be the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People God's mercy endures forever.

The Decalogue

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 350

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercv.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

The Celebrant says

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our 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 other commandment greater than these."

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

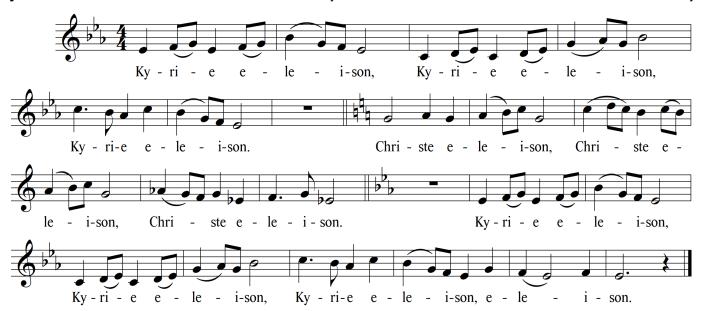
Minister and People

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*.

The following is sung.



Collect of the Day

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

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

A Reading from Deuteronomy.

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

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

The Psalm Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

- 1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, * abides under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 He shall say to the LORD,
 - "You are my refuge and my stronghold, * my God in whom I put my trust."
- 9 Because you have made the LORD your refuge, * and the Most High your habitation,

10 There shall no evil happen to you, *

neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.

11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, *

to keep you in all your ways.

12 They shall bear you in their hands, *

lest you dash your foot against a stone.

13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *

you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.

14 Because he is bound to me in love,

therefore will I deliver him; *

I will protect him, because he knows my Name.

15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *

I am with him in trouble;

I will rescue him and bring him to honor.

16 With long life will I satisfy him, * and show him my salvation.

Second Reading

Romans 10:8b-13

A Reading from Romans.

"The word is near you,

on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

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

Gradual Forty Days and Forty Nights (vv. 1-3)

Hymn 150

Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone."

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,'

and

'On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test." When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

Homily

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, 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 The Serpent Music by Thomas Pavlechko
Text by Richard Leach

St. Paul's Choir

"What do you ssee?" the sserpent ssaid. The woman answered "Death." "It is not death," the sserpent ssaid, "It surely is not death." "I see what God told us to see." The woman quickly said. "Ssee what I ssay," the sserpent ssaid. "Ssee what I ssay," it ssaid. "What do you ssee?" the tempter ssaid, The Savior answered, "Stone." "Must it be sstone?" the tempter ssaid, "It surely could be bread." "Let it be stone." the Savior said. "For life is more than bread. See what the scripture says," he said, "See what the scripture says." We see what we are told to see Whom shall we listen to? Give us the grace. O God, to see What we are told by you.

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.

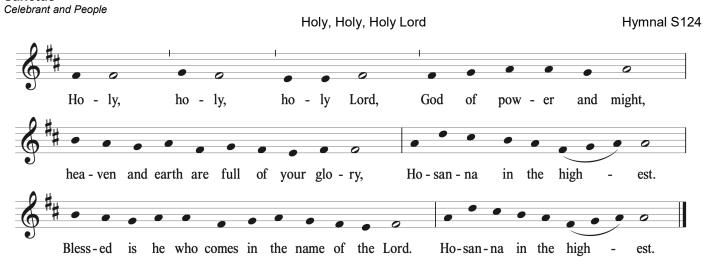
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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



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

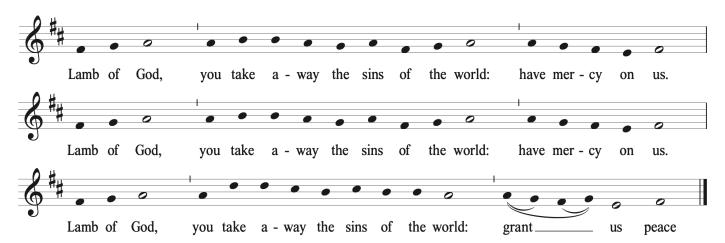
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Lord's 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.

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

Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless Hymn 313 Hymn 343

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

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Recessional The Glory of These Forty Days Hymn 143

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

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TODAY – MARCH 9, 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 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!

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 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 morning by the vestry, welcoming the Rev. Sarah Phelps as our interim rector. Join us after the 9 a.m. service for coffee and conversation.

Adult Formation (Chapel, 10:15-11 a.m.): Our series *Spiritual Renewal in Lent* begins today with "What is Lent all About?" presented by the Rev. Dr. Cathy Deats and Celia Hartnett, MSW, LCSW.

Children's Communion Class - 1st thru 3rd grade (Church, 10:15-11 a.m.): The class offers a learning experience about the meaning of the rite over three sessions (Mar. 2, 9 and 16); it is not a prerequisite for children's communion participation.

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

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.

Lenten Book Study: The Racial Justice Planning Group will offer a book study on "The Crisis of Christian Nationalism," a report by the House of Bishops Theology Committee that was commissioned by the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry during his service as presiding bishop. We will gather from 3 to 4:30 p.m. on Sundays, Mar. 23 and 30 in the Annex building, next to the Chapel. You are welcome to bring an afternoon snack of your choice to share. We have an online signup link on the St. Paul's website; please sign up in advance as space is limited. Email Aleta McClenney at aleta@att.net with questions.

Special Children's Chapel Study During Lent: Children's Ministries is offering "Animal Crackers," designed by Heifer International, as a special six-week Lenten Study during Children's Chapel beginning Mar. 9. Each Sunday, children will learn about an animal and how it helps communities around the world thrive, with opportunities to see themselves as part of a global family and learn how small changes can have big impacts. We will distribute mite boxes so the children can collect donations for Heifer International; mite boxes can be returned on Easter Sunday. Contact Sherri Hubbard at sherhubbard7@gmail.com for more information.

Courtyard Cleanup and Mulch Day: Join our crew on Saturday, Mar. 15 for cleaning, pruning and moving mulch into the courtyard in preparation for Easter and the coming growing season. Wheelbarrows, mulch rakes and muscle power are most appreciated; no experience is necessary. This is a great way to enjoy some fellowship while making a big difference in our community. We will start with pruning and cleaning beds at 8 a.m.; mulch spreading begins at 10 a.m. and should finish by noon. Sign up at https://bit.ly/courtyard2025, or you may contact Julia Rudy at jbrudy@yahoo.com if you can help.

Youth Mystery Dinner Theater: Our Youth Mystery Dinner Theater show "Who Stole the Pot O'Gold?" will be presented on Sunday, Mar. 16, 6-8 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Join us for the shenanigans and an Irish-themed dinner (vegan and gluten free options available) for just \$25 per person. St. Patty's Day costumes are HIGHLY recommended – win a prize for best-dressed! Reserve your spot in advance with the link on the website; information is also available on posters in the narthex. Childcare is available for \$5 per child. Contact Ben Bricio at youth@stpaulscary.org for more information.

Communion Class Celebration: The Children's Ministry Committee (CMC) is hosting a festive Communion Class Celebration during Coffee Hour on March 23rd. We would love your help contributing baked goods or other food items for our celebration. Find a link to the sign up on the St. Paul's website; contact Natalie Sroka at natalie@stpaulscary.org with any questions.

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. The new director of EFWM will be with us on Sunday, Mar. 30, and we would love to show him that St. Paul's sees and supports our farmworker neighbors. Read more about this project in the article on our website and contact Katie Bricio at katiebricio13@gmail.com with any questions. Donate online or with checks, putting "EFWM mattresses" in the memo line.

Sign Up for Women's Beach Week: Attention Ladies: join us for fun in the sun and a laughter-filled trip to Emerald Isle April 27 - May 4! Come for a few days or for the whole week. The cost depends on the number of participants, so we need your responses by March 15. Learn more about the trip and how you can treat yourself to this wonderful stress-reliever on the St. Paul's website. Sign up online or contact Yvon Daniel, 919-747-1199, yvdaniel60@gmail.com.

Registration is Open for Vacation Bible Camp (VBC): During Waves of Wonder, July 14-18, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., children will be inspired by the beauty and majesty of what God has made. Through drama, art, science explorations, and games, we'll share the importance of water and be invited to join God in caring for this precious natural resource. Find the link to register on the St. Paul's website or on our promotional flyers in the narthex. Contact vbc@stpaulscary.org with questions.

Wheels4Hope Car Buying Class: Mike Sweeney from St. Paul's Wheels4Hope Ministry is presenting the class "A Recipe for Car Buying Success" at Dorcas Ministries Workforce Development Center on High House Rd. in Cary on Mar. 19 from 6-7 p.m. Learn how to shop smart and drive away with confidence. Details about the class and how to register can be found on the St. Paul's website or by contacting Mike at mas223@ymail.com.

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, and Jill.

In the prayers for the deceased, we pray for Don Stumbaugh, husband of Susan Stumbaugh; Wilma Daley, friend of Barb Prillaman.

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