



St. Paul's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER

The Rev. Sarah Phelps, Celebrant
Caitlin Belington & Adam Springfield, Homilists

HOLY EUCHARIST
9:00 A.M. SERVICE
MAY 18, 2025

Prelude

Canterbury Bells
Little Prelude in E Minor
Adoro te Devote
Holy, Holy, Holy

John S. Dixon
arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

Processional

O Praise Ye the Lord! Praise Him in the Height

Hymn 432

Liturgy of the Word

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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 God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Children’s Processional

All Things Bright and Beautiful (v. 1)
Children’s Chapel is for children 3 years old through 5th grade.

Hymn 405

First Reading

Acts 11:1-18

A Reading from Acts.

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

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

The Psalm

Psalm 148

- 1 Hallelujah!
 Praise the LORD from the heavens; *
 praise him in the heights.
- 2 Praise him, all you angels of his; *
 praise him, all his host.
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon; *
 praise him, all you shining stars.

- 4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, *
and you waters above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the Name of the LORD; *
for he commanded, and they were created.
- 6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.
- 7 Praise the LORD from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, doing his will;
- 9 Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens, *
old and young together.
- 13 Let them praise the Name of the LORD, *
for his Name only is exalted,
his splendor is over earth and heaven.
- 14 He has raised up strength for his people
and praise for all his loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
Hallelujah!

Second Reading

Revelation 21:1-6

A Reading from Revelation.

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them as their God;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

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

Gradual

In Christ There is No East or West

Hymn 529

Gospel

John 13:31-35

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

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

Homily

Caitlin Belington & Adam Springfield

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 and Absolution of Sin

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 Celebrant 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

Ian Higginson

Lead Us Heavenly Father
St. Paul's Choir & Canterbury Choir
The Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
O'er the world's tempestuous sea;
Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
For we have no help but thee;
Yet possessing every blessing,
If our God our Father be.
Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:
All our weakness thou dost know:
Thou didst tread this earth before us,
Thou didst feel its keenest woe;
Lone and dreary, faint and weary,
Through the desert thou didst go.
Spirit of our God, descending,
Fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
Love with every passion blending,
Pleasure that can never cloy:
Thus provided, pardoned, guided
Nothing can our peace destroy.

Offertory Response

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

Eucharistic Prayer B*The People remain standing.*

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.*

The Celebrant proceeds.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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***Sanctus**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Hymn S128

(organ)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of power and might, _____ heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 (organ)
 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

People and Celebrant

BCP 367

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

Hymn S154

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "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." The first staff covers the first line of lyrics, the second staff covers the second line, and the third staff covers the third line. There is a blank space in the lyrics "keep ____ the feast" corresponding to a blank space in the musical notation.

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

I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord
Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

Hymn 304
Hymn 487

Postcommunion Prayer

BCP 366

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing

Recessional

All My Hope on God is Founded

Hymn 665

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.
People *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

Postlude

Dr. Joseph Khoury, Guest Organist

*The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for
The Rev. Candy Snively's, 20th ordination anniversary;
and for Logan by his family Jon, Heather, Emmie, & Evelyn Gates;
and in memory of Noah Duncan by Gail Duncan.*

TODAY – MAY 18, 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 this morning 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!

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.

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 are always welcome in the service.

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 St. Paul's Youth. Please join us after the 9 a.m. service to celebrate all the youth have accomplished and added to our life at St. Paul's. We're also saying thank you and farewell to Youth Coordinator Ben Bricio and Children's and Youth Ministry Assistant Claire Terry as they depart for new life adventures.

Adult Formation (Church, 10:15-11 a.m.): Our series *Easter Hope in a Time of Transition* continues today with "Hear, O Israel: The Habit of Listening in Public Life" presented by Fr. Javier.

Children's Sunday School - 5th grade and under (Education Building): Classes are completed for this term.

Youth Sunday School - 6th thru 12th grade (Youth Wing): Classes are completed for this term.

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC): Join us from 5-7 p.m. for our final regular session of fun and fellowship.

SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 25

The summer service schedule, **7:30, 9 and 10:45 a.m. services**, begins May 25 and continues through August 31.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rector Search Kickoff Events: This afternoon at 12:30 p.m., we welcome the Rev. Marion Sprott, transition officer of the diocese, to continue listening sessions aimed at imagining our future together as a community. We want every voice to be heard as we move through this process as a parish. More opportunities to offer input will be coming in June. Learn more about the rector search on our Transitions webpage, or by contacting Aleta McClenney or Lanny Wase at rectorsearch@stpaulscary.org.

Rise Against Hunger is Coming June 1: All (including family, friends, neighbors) are invited to join a meal packaging experience with Rise Against Hunger at St. Paul's on Sunday, June 1 from 10 a.m.-noon in the Parish Hall. Meals are distributed through global partners that support school feeding programs, orphanages, crisis response and more. Volunteers ages 4 years and up can commit their time and money to both packaging and paying for these meals. Information about registering and donating can be found on our website and in the narthex. Contact Ramsey McIntire at dingervb@gmail.com with questions.

Free Advocacy Pins for June Events: June is National Gun Violence Awareness Month, and traditionally, all who wish to see gun violence reduced wear orange. This year, June 6 is National Gun Violence Awareness Day, and everyone is encouraged to wear orange June 6-8. We also recognize June as Pride Month, an annual event which serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of acceptance, diversity, and love. Please find orange pins and rainbow ribbons on the counter in the narthex for anyone who wishes to wear them as advocates for these causes.

Parish Picnic June 8: The Men's Group is bringing back the beloved Parish Picnic on Sunday, June 8, on the church grounds! Sunday services will be at 7:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. that day, with the picnic starting immediately after the later service. Hamburgers and hotdogs are the main course; parishioners are invited to bring a drink, dessert, or side dish to share. A sign-up link will be posted soon to help with food planning. The festivities include a Bounce House for children. Dress comfortably for the picnic - come hungry and bring friends!!

Book Drive for Read and Feed: This year, St. Paul's VBC is sponsoring a book drive to support Read and Feed, a high-impact reading tutoring program in Wake County. After tutoring sessions, children in the program self-select three books to build their home library, taking home over 75 books during the school year. Book donations help ensure they always have a diverse selection to choose from. Donate gently used books from your personal collection, or purchase books from our Wish Lists with Amazon (a link is found in the narthex). The book drive will run through July 6; drop books in the cart in the hall near the youth wing. Contact vbc@stpaulscary.org with questions.

Help Support Vacation Bible Camp (VBC): We're gearing up for *Waves of Wonder* (July 14-18) and looking for help from the community. Our crew has made volunteering super easy and welcoming for adults (bit.ly/stpaulsvbc). You can also help by purchasing supplies from our Amazon wish list. See the flyer in the narthex for more details. Don't miss this opportunity to welcome families and experience a fun week of learning about God's love. Spread the word!

Help With Summer Hospitality Ministries: Summer is a time we welcome many visitors, seeking new faith communities where they feel a connection. If you have a heart for hospitality and would like to help us welcome summer visitors, we could use support for our bi-monthly Coffee & Chaos offering, a summer version of Coffee Hour that takes place in the lobby of the Parish Hall two times per month. The time commitment is about one hour, minding the snack/beverage cart and serving as a host. If you would like to serve in this ministry and help with a Sunday or two, please contact Mary Kintz at mary.kintz@stpaulscary.org.

Easter Offering: We encourage you to participate in our 2025 Easter Offering, open through the Easter Season, ending June 8! All gifts received from this offering will help ensure we go from strength to strength in our ministry with young people and their families, even as we have sinkholes to repair in the parking lot and increased utility costs to contend with, too. Drop an Easter envelope in the plate or donate online indicating "Easter offering" in the notes.

Prayer List: Dave, Bob, Ann, Vickie, Ann, Laura, Margaret, Mary, Virginia, Doug, Guy, Katie, Cathy, Alan, Jessica, John, Mary, Susan, Clarence, Susan, Noah, Sally, John, Janice, John, Randy, Regina, Parrish, Jackie, Matias, Yosy, Ashley, Connor, Barb, Peggy, Carter, Hope, Marty, Janet, Austin, Liddy, Mary, Sue, Brenna, Lynn, Melanie, Ryan, Alyson, Ragheid, Samson, Patrick, Sarah, Ryan, Nancy, and Ben.

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

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Worship. Serve. Grow.

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The Rev. Sarah Phelps, Interim Rector
The Rev. Javier E. Almendárez-Bautista, Senior Associate Rector
The Rev. Antoinette Wike, Priest Associate
The Rev. Candy Snively, Deacon
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