



St. Paul's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

TWELFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

The Rev. Sarah Phelps, Celebrant & Homilist

HOLY EUCHARIST
9:00 A.M. SERVICE
AUGUST 31, 2025

Prelude

Carol Yeargin, Organ

Processional

Lord Christ, When Thou First Cam'st to Earth

Hymn 598

Liturgy of the Word

The Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The following is sung.

Gloria

Glory to God

Hymnal S280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al - migh-t-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; 5. you are seat - ed at the
 right hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the

Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, 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.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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

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

Hymn 405

First Reading

Jeremiah 2:4-13

A Reading from Jeremiah.

Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the LORD:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?

They did not say, "Where is the LORD who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?"

I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things.

But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination.

The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.

Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD, and I accuse your children's children.

Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing.

Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods?

But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit.

Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the LORD, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

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

The Psalm

Psalm 81:1, 10-16

- 1 Sing with joy to God our strength *
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.
- 10 I am the LORD your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, *
"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."
- 11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, *
and Israel would not obey me.
- 12 So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, *
to follow their own devices.
- 13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! *
that Israel would walk in my ways!
- 14 I should soon subdue their enemies *
and turn my hand against their foes.
- 15 Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him, *
and their punishment would last for ever.
- 16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat *
and satisfy him with honey from the rock.

Second Reading

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

Gradual

My God, Thy Table Now is Spread (vv. 1 & 2)

Hymn 321

The Gospel

Luke 14:1, 7-14

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

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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

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**

Carol Yeargin, Organ

Offertory Response*All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee.***The Great Thanksgiving****Eucharistic Prayer I**

Enriching our Worship (EOW) 57

*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.*

The Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly — Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven 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

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with blessed Paul and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. 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

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 367

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

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

For those worshipping with us online

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

Blest Are the Pure in Heart
 How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

Hymn 656
 Hymn 644

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant and People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

EOW 69

Blessing

Recessional

All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine

Hymn 477

Dismissal

Deacon
 People

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia.
 Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Postlude

Carol Yeargin, Organ

TODAY – AUGUST 31, 2025

Please wear your nametags when you're here at church! And if you don't yet have a nametag, please complete an order form in the narthex (lobby) so we can get you one!

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 each 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!

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 in Worship at St. Paul's: Children are always welcome in our worship services without exception, but if parents should wish for a space where your kids have more room to move around during the service, you are welcome to make use of the Comfort Room (glassed-in room at the rear of the worship space from which you can still hear and see the service). Ask an usher if you need help finding it. Also, our Kids' Club (free nursery care) is available during the 9 a.m. service, and infants/toddlers through 36 months (3 years old) are welcome to attend.

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

Children's and Youth Sunday School: Classes resume September 14.

Sunday Service Time Changes

Please note the following changes for the coming weeks:

Sept. 7: Holy Eucharist at 7:30 and 10 a.m. (*Fall Gathering! – Parish Potluck & Program Year Preview*)

Sept. 14: Holy Eucharist at 7:30, 9 and 11:15 a.m. (*regular Sunday schedule resumes*)

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Young Adults Coffee Hour: Inviting all 20- and 30-somethings for some fellowship time! Come to the Youth Wing today after the 10:45 a.m. service (around noon) for a chance to connect with other young adults over coffee and snacks. If you have questions or ideas for future gatherings, please contact Erica Ridderman at erica@stpaulscary.org or Meredith Barnhart at meredithebarnhart@gmail.com.

Fall Gathering on Sept. 7 – Parish Potluck & Start of Program Year: Mark your calendars for Sept. 7 at 10 a.m. as we celebrate a return to fall programs with a celebratory Eucharist followed by a “Munch and Mingle” potluck. Gather together and learn more about all that's going on with children, youth and adult formation and fellowship. Chat with newcomers and friends as we share why we keep coming back for more! Learn what you can contribute to the potluck using this link: bit.ly/4oIUjGi. Questions? Contact Mary Kintz at mary.kintz@stpaulscary.org.

Annual Blessing of the Backpacks: During the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, Sept. 7, we invite all youth, children and teachers forward for a blessing as we enter a new school year! Bring your backpacks for a special tag created by a young artist of St. Paul's. Be sure to stay for the festive Fall Gathering – including a family meeting, potluck, and bounce house – after the service! Come see your friends and meet some of our new folks as well.

Online Fall Book Study Begins Sept. 10: Join us on Zoom on Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m. for a study of “A Return to Love: Reflections on the Principles of A Course in Miracles,” by Marianne Williamson. This work reveals how we each can become a miracle worker by expressing God's love in our daily lives. Contact Gerri Batchelor at gerrikairos@gmail.com if you are interested; Tuesday sessions may be added if there is enough interest. We'll meet for 9 weeks starting Sept. 10.

Dads and Kids Greenway Walk: Moms can take the morning off as dads and kids come out and make memories together! St. Paul's Men's Group is hosting our first ever “Dads and Kids Greenway Walk,” on Saturday, Sept. 13, starting at 9 a.m. near the Youth Wing. Choose your own pace and distance and meet back at the church for popsicles and photos; all ages and abilities welcome! Learn more on the parish website or by contacting Mike McNerney at michael.k.mcinerney@gmail.com.

Pre-EYC Begins Sept. 14: Calling all 4th and 5th graders! Pre-EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) is a twice monthly gathering for 4th and 5th graders that builds church friendships through games, food, and service. Pre-EYC is active in outreach, both here at church and in the community. Our Welcome Potluck and Parent/Child Meeting is Sunday, Sept. 14, from 5-7 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please bring a food item to share for dinner. We hope you'll bring a friend, too! For more info, contact Erica Ridderman at erica@stpaulscary.org.

First EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) Gathering Sept. 21: Rising 6th graders through 12th graders are invited to join St. Paul's EYC, which meets most Sunday evenings from 5-7 p.m. in the Youth Wing. EYC looks to build spiritual community through games and other fun activities, conversation, and dinner together. Our first meeting is on Sept. 21. Please plan to join us and bring friends! Questions? Contact Erica at erica@stpaulscary.org.

Newcomer Gathering Sept. 28: Are you new to St. Paul's since our last newcomer event in 2024? Please join us in the Youth Wing on Sunday, Sept. 28 from 2:30-4 p.m. to enjoy snacks and share stories with others who have recently joined us. The clergy and members of our hospitality ministries are excited to welcome you and get to know you better. Children are welcome, and we'll have the Kids' Club open as well (if you'd like adult conversation). RSVP online or contact Community Connector Mary Kintz at mary.kintz@stpaulscary.org.

Lobster Fest Ordering is Open – Don't Miss the Fun!: You've loved our fresh lobsters and lobster rolls in the past, so let's do it all over again! Celebrate Lobster Fest with us on Saturday, Oct. 4. Ordering is now open; information about the menu and pricing is found on our webpage and in the narthex. We're also assembling our volunteer crews, a fun way to get to know folks while helping raise funds for outreach. We have spots for a variety of ages and abilities; the crews are described on our volunteer page (bit.ly/3JrFtno). Questions? Contact Vicki Bradley at vicki@lobsterfestcary.org.

Sept. 6 Spiritual Retreat Hosted by St. Ambrose Episcopal Church Women: Join with women of faith as we spend a day with the dynamic Rev. Canon Kathy Walker, Missioner for Black Ministries, exploring the theme "Learning to Live a Spiritual Life in this Modern World." The program takes place at New Hope Collaborative (formerly St. Mark's Episcopal Church) 1725 N. New Hope Road in Raleigh, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Learn more online and RSVP by contacting the St. Ambrose church office at 919-833-8055, or by email at ecw@stambrosedaleigh.org.

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, John, Randy, Regina, Parrish, Jackie, Matias, Yosy, Ashley, Barb, Peggy, Hope, Marty, Janet, Austin, Liddy, Mary, Sue, Nancy, Ben, Patrick, Sarah, Chris, Paul, Heather, Henry, Carter, Althea, Beth, Anne, Joe, Barbara, Gary, Ted, Rania, Hilda, Jim, Tommy, Bonnie, Susan, Melanie, Dave, Chuck, and Kay.

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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MISSION STATEMENT

Worship. Serve. Grow.

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Erica Ridderman, Minister for Children, Youth, and Family Formation
The Rev. Candy Snively, Deacon
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