

St. Paul's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

The Rev. Sarah Phelps, Celebrant
The Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Homilist

HOLY EUCHARIST
9:00 A.M. SERVICE
SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

Prelude

Carol Yeargin, Organ

Processional

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Hymn 390

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 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 - mighty 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.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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 8:18-9:1

A Reading from Jeremiah.

My joy is gone, grief is upon me,
 my heart is sick.

Hark, the cry of my poor people
 from far and wide in the land:

"Is the LORD not in Zion?
 Is her King not in her?"

("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images,
 with their foreign idols?")

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended,
 and we are not saved."

For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt,
 I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

Is there no balm in Gilead?
 Is there no physician there?

Why then has the health of my poor people
 not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water,
 and my eyes a fountain of tears,
 so that I might weep day and night
 for the slain of my poor people!

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

The Psalm

Psalm 79:1-9

- 1 O God, the heathen have come into your inheritance;
they have profaned your holy temple; *
they have made Jerusalem a heap of rubble.
- 2 They have given the bodies of your servants as food for the birds of the air, *
and the flesh of your faithful ones to the beasts of the field.
- 3 They have shed their blood like water on every side of Jerusalem, *
and there was no one to bury them.
- 4 We have become a reproach to our neighbors, *
an object of scorn and derision to those around us.
- 5 How long will you be angry, O Lord? *
will your fury blaze like fire for ever?
- 6 Pour out your wrath upon the heathen who have not known you *
and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon your Name.
- 7 For they have devoured Jacob *
and made his dwelling a ruin.
- 8 Remember not our past sins;
let your compassion be swift to meet us; *
for we have been brought very low.
- 9 Help us, O God our Savior, for the glory of your Name; *
deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your Name's sake.

Second Reading

Revelation 21:22-22:5

A Reading from the Book of Revelation.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.***Gradual**

Be Thou My Vision

Hymn 488

The Gospel

Luke 16:1-13

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

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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 here or 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

Prayer
St. Paul's Choir

Mark Schweizer

King of glory, King of peace, I will love thee;
and that love may never cease, I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request, thou hast heard me;
Thou didst note my working breast, thou hast spared me.
Wherefore with my utmost art I will sing thee,
and the cream of all my heart I will bring thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort to enroll thee:
E'en eternity's too short to extol thee.

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:

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.
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

BCP 367

People and Celebrant

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

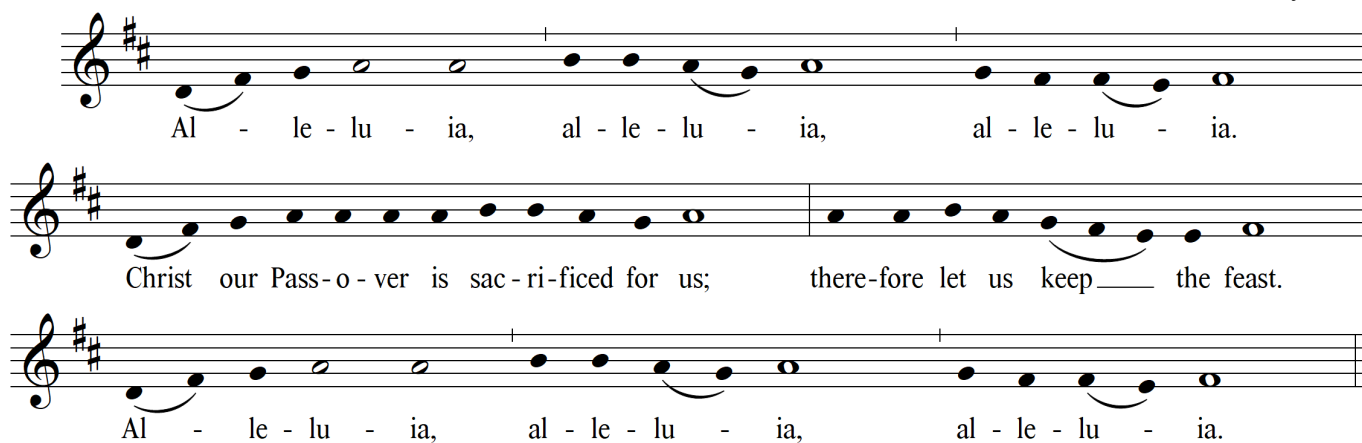
Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Christ Our Passover

Hymn S154



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass-o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Communion

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to come forward for communion, including children. Please follow the ushers' guidance as you come to the rail. If you would like to receive the wine by intinction (dipping the bread in the cup), keep the bread in your hands and wait for the communion server to come to you. If you would like to receive from the common cup (drinking from the cup directly), please consume the bread first and then make your way to the steps at the end of the rail. A communion server will be there with the common cup. If it is not your custom to receive communion, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing. Simply cross your arms across your chest and the minister will offer a prayer.

A priest is 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.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

For those worshiping 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

What Does the Lord Require
There is a Balm in Gilead

Hymn 605

Hymn 676

Postcommunion Prayer

EOW 69

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.

Blessing

Recessional

God of Grace and God of Glory

Hymn 594

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Carol Yeargin, Organ

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for Annette, Ben, and Aaron Smith's birthday week.

TODAY – SEPTEMBER 21, 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 **TODAY** 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.

Coffee Hour (Parish Hall): Hosted this week by the Lobster Fest Committee. Join us after the 9 a.m. service for coffee and conversation; you can place your order this morning as well!

Adult Formation (Chapel, 10:15-11 a.m.): Our series on Affordable Housing in our Community continues today with a conversation with the Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome of Greenwood Forest Baptist Church in Cary. Hear more about the Carr Center project planned for the corner of Maynard and Kildaire Farms Rd. in Cary.

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

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

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

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 tonight. 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.

Racial Justice Book Group on Sept. 28: Join us for the last of our summer offerings as we discuss “Migrant God” ahead of author Isaac Villegas’ visit with us in October. We have added a few more spaces to the sign-up in order to meet interest. Please note this group begins at 12:30 p.m. in the Youth Wing because of shift in service times. Email Aleta McClenney at aleta@att.net with questions; you can find the sign up on the St. Paul’s website under events.

Ordering Closes Oct. 1 – Lobster Fest: Attention! We’re ten days away from closing the online order store, the only way to guarantee your order for Oct. 4. If you weren’t sure about ordering or joining one of our crews, find one of our Lobster Fest leaders between the services - they’re wearing “Ask Me About Lobster Fest” nametags and hosting Coffee Hour today. Place your order and chat about joining one of our volunteer crews. This is a fun way to get to know folks while helping raise funds for outreach. Questions? Contact Vicki Bradley at vicki@lobsterfestcary.org.

Blessing of the Animals: Join us on Sunday, Oct. 5 at 1:30 p.m. in the St. Paul’s Courtyard for the annual Blessing of the Animals as we cherish the earth and all its creatures in the spirit of Francis of Assisi. Bring your pets and invite your neighbors and friends of your pets as well. All are welcome.

Racial Equity Institute Training Returns to Cary Oct. 9-10: The Racial Justice Planning Group and the Outreach Support Team are hosting a Racial Equity Institute (REI) Phase I training on October 9-10 in the Youth Wing. REI’s two-day workshop is designed to provide attendees with a vocabulary and historical framework for racism to better understand how it damages lives in all communities. The training is open to the public and has limited spaces. Please find more details on the St. Paul’s website or contact Kevin McIntire at kvn.mcintire@gmail.com for more information.

Parish Wide Yam Jam/Sweet Potato Gleaning Oct. 11: All parishioners are invited to join us for a morning of gleaning at a local farm. We’ll collect leftover sweet potatoes to support local food banks—serving neighbors, caring for God’s creation, and building community. Final details and directions will be emailed on October 10th. Please sign up online to get updates and carpool info. Questions? Contact Shannon Robinson at shannon3b@gmail.com.

St. Paul’s Christmas Pageant 2025 – Reg. by Oct 12: It’s time to plan the pageant again! All families of St. Paul’s are invited to participate in our Christmas Pageant, a magical way to celebrate the birth of Christ. All roles (speaking and non-speaking) are played by children ages preschool through 5th grade. Older children are welcome to volunteer to help. The pageant will take place during the 9 a.m. service on Sunday, December 21. All information, including rehearsal dates, can be found on the Christmas Pageant page on the website.

Call for Vestry Nominations: 2026 is going to be a very important year for St. Paul’s. The four new Vestry members we elect in November will be a part of the group that will call our next Rector and further develop our vision. The vestry meets monthly and gathers for an annual weekend retreat to accomplish the meaningful, necessary work that underpins all that happens at St. Paul’s. All confirmed adult members in good standing are eligible to be nominated to serve on the Vestry. To make a nomination, or for any questions, please contact Dan Loughlin at danloughlin@gmail.com.

Prayer List: We pray for Dave, Bob, Ann, Vickie, Ann, Laura, Margaret, Mary, Virginia, Doug, Guy, Katie, Cathy, 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, Kay, Claudia, Sharon, Ron, Jack, Caryn, Gary, Lori, Max, and May.

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. Robert Fruehwirth, Interim Associate Rector
Dr. Erica Ridderman, Minister for Children, Youth, and Family Formation
The Rev. Candy Snively, Deacon
Russell McKinney, Director of Music Ministries
Carol Yeargin, Organist

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