

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

In the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina



**The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 5, 2021**

*Open doors. Open hearts. Open hands.
We will welcome all to live God's mission, teach Christ's love
and transform our community by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

The Holy Eucharist

Voluntary

Improvisation on "Duke Street"

Processional Hymn 544

Jesus shall reign wher-e'er the sun

Duke Street

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: 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 Gloria

Gloria

Glory be to God

Lauda anima

Glo - ry be to God in hea - ven, songs of
Lamb of God, who on you shoul - ders bore the
You, O Son of God, are ho - ly, you we
joy and peace we bring, thank - ful hearts and voi - ces
load of this world's sin, on - ly Son of God the
praise with one ac - cord; none in heav'n or earth is
rais - ing, to cre - a - tion's Lord we sing: Lord, we thank you,
Fa - ther, you have brought us peace with - in: Lord, have mer - cy,
like you, on - ly you are Christ the Lord with the Fa - ther,
Lord, we bless you, glo - ry be to God our King.
Christ, have mer - cy, now your glo - rious reign be - gin.
and the Spi - rit, ev - er wor - shipped and a - dored.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The people may be seated.

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
‘Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.’

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146

Lauda, anima mea

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth,
for there is no help in them.

3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps his promise for ever;

6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed,
and food to those who hunger.

7 The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind;
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

8 The LORD loves the righteous;
the LORD cares for the stranger;
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

9 The LORD shall reign for ever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!

A Reading from James 2:1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
while the near waters roll, while the tempest still is high;
hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.

Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art; freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart, rise to all eternity.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 7:24-37

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Caleb J. Lee

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

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.

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: God calls us today to be open to the word and to one another. Let us open ourselves to all the world in prayer, saying: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For the church we pray. That we may bring God's word of life to all in silence, darkness, and despair, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For our congregation we pray. That we may grow into the mystery of God's life among and in us, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For the world we pray, that nations will come to cooperate for the health and well-being of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For our community we pray, especially for New Hanover High School and all schools, that they may be havens of peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For all in the healing professions we pray, that those who search for cures and those who attend the sick may be strengthened for their tasks, and that hospitals and nursing homes may be equipped to deal with our sick and dying, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For the sick and the dying, we pray. That all who have asked for our prayers and those known to you alone may know the healing power of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For all those who have died, that they have come to know eternal life in the mercy of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Into your mercy, O God, we commend all the needy world, trusting in your almighty power, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN*

Confession of Sin

The 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 Celebrant concludes with an absolution

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

Announcements

Dedication of the Books of Common Prayer

Celebrant: Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord;
People: Praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
Celebrant: All things come from you, O Lord;
People: And from your own gifts do we give to you.
Celebrant: Prosper the work of our hands;
People: Prosper our handiwork.
Celebrant: Show your servants your works;
People: And your splendor to their children.

Let us pray

Celebrant: Almighty God, we thank you that you have put it into the hearts of your people to make offerings for your service, and have been pleased to accept their gifts. Be with us now and bless us as we set apart these prayer books to your praise and glory in honor and remembrance of those we love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, *Amen*.

Celebrant: I dedicate these prayer books in the name of the +Father, and of the +Son, and of the +Holy Spirit. *Amen*

Anthem *Be still, for the presence of the Lord* arr. Richard Shepherd

Presentation Hymn Doxology with Alleluias *Lasst uns erfreuen*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below, alleluia, alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A)

BCP 361

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.

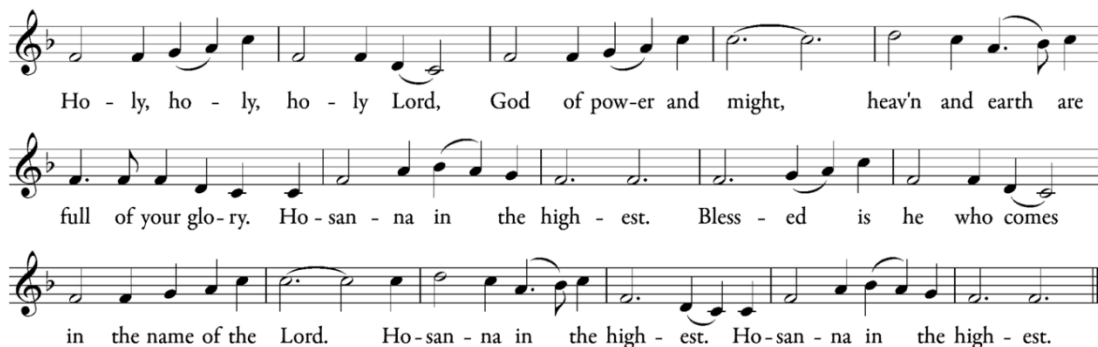
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Land of Rest



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav'n 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Then 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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant 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.*

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

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S169

Cantor or Choir

My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -

deed, says the Lord. *All* My Lord. *Cantor or Choir* Those who eat my

flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them. *All* My

flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

Celebrant and People

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your abundant and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under your table;
but you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn 315	Thou who at thy first Eucharist did pray	<i>Song 1</i>
Communion Hymn 321	My God, thy table now is spread	<i>Rockingham</i>

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The people stand or kneel

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and
singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant pronounces a blessing, to which the congregation responds, "AMEN"

Processional Hymn 541

Come, labor on

Ora Labora

Dismissal

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Fugue in G major

J. S. Bach

A Warm Welcome to Everyone!

Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are new to St. Paul's, please fill out a guest card and place it in the offering plate or give it to a greeter or an usher. Please, come visit us again. Our service is live-streamed on YouTube on Sundays at 10:30. Please subscribe to St. Paul's on YouTube to view live-streamed services and concerts.

Prayer List

In our parish

Earl Craig	Tammy Pollock
Fr. John Cawthorne	Lyle Sullivan
Anne Laudati	Jim Summey
Richard Laudati	Joanne Summey
Diane Trubia	Pat Baker
William Murphy	William Dennis
Michelle Miller	

People requesting prayer

Tracy Calhoun Sorrenti	Richard O'Rourke
Tammy Tilghman	Sharon O'Rourke Berry
Michael Justice	Bryce Harrelson
Steve Hatch	Stacey Baker Neal
Dean Clay	Capt. Samantha Stillwell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Encouraged to Serve as Acolytes and Readers

If you are in the fifth grade or above and you would like to serve as an acolyte or a reader at St. Paul's, we would love to have you. All prospective youth acolytes and readers will be trained. Training is easy. For more information and to sign up, please contact Head Verger, Herb Gant herbgant@gmail.com

Garden Workday Planned for Saturday, September 11

In preparation for our receptions moving outside due to COVID safety, we will be having a garden workday on Saturday, September 11 from 9 – 12. If you plan on attending or have any questions, please contact Patt Scherer, Chair of the St. Fiacre Guild at pscherer8@aol.com.

Sunday Morning Hospitality Begins Again September 12

On September 12, St. Paul's will begin its ministry of hospitality by offering breakfast following the 8 am service and a reception following our 10:30 am service. Our breakfast will continue to be offered in the Parish Hall with COVID restrictions in place. The reception after the 10:30 service will be in the Rectory Garden directly behind the church building. Things will no doubt look a little different than our pre-COVID offerings, but the spirit of welcome, fellowship and food will still be the main ingredients.

Wednesday Eucharists and Light Lunches Return – September 22

St. Paul's will be offering a weekly 12:10 Eucharist on Wednesdays, beginning on September 22. We are planning to offer a light lunch following the service. Lunch will be served in compliance with current COVID restrictions: servers masked and gloved and food served to individuals (not buffet style). Suggestions for food offerings include hoagies and chips, casserole and salad, soup and sandwich, chef salad, etc. The lunch crew members would be responsible for set up, food service and clean-up. There are hospitality funds available for reimbursements. If you would like to serve as a part of a lunch crew, please contact Teresa Singer teresabsinger@gmail.com.

Deanery Confirmation Service Hosted at St. Paul's – October 3

On *Sunday October 3rd* at 3:00 pm, St. Paul's will be hosting a deanery wide service of Holy Eucharist with Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows.

Bishop Skirving will be presiding. If you desire to be confirmed, received into the Episcopal Church, reaffirm your baptismal vows, or simply want to know more about the process please contact Fr. Caleb at rector@spechurch.com.

Children's Ministry Calendar

Meet and Greet - On *Sunday, September 12*, our Children's Ministry Team will host a Meet and Greet Breakfast for Sunday school teachers, children and their parents from 9:30 – 10:15 am upstairs in the Children's Wing.

Sunday School Kickoff - On *September 19* at 9:30 am we will kick-off the beginning of Sunday school as we Grow Together in Faith. Teachers and students are asked to "Mask UP!" each week. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please contact Meaghan Thomas at speckids@spechurch.com

Stewardship Book Study – September 14

Please join us September 14 at 7:30 AM or 6:30 PM for a discussion of A SPIRITUALITY OF FUNDRAISING by Henri J. M. Nouwen. Both sessions will be held via Zoom. The link is on the front page of the website. This study is part of the St. Paul's Year-Round Stewardship Program. All participants are invited to read this short book prior to the discussion, which will be led by Steve Martin. It is available at christianbook.com or amazon.com as a Kindle, audiobook or paperback.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

September 12 at 5:30 pm – Evensong for the Feast of the Holy Cross

September 29 at 5:30 pm – Evensong for the Feast of Michael and All Angels

October 3 at 3 pm – Deanery Confirmation Service hosted at St. Paul's.

October 10 at 5:00 pm - Blessing of the Animals

Labor Day, Monday Sep. 6

The church office will be closed in observance of Labor Day this Monday, September 6. The office will re-open on Tuesday at 9 am.

Service Participants

8:00 AM

Celebrant and Preacher - The Reverend Caleb J. Lee

Altar Server – Merry Ann Wright

Lector – Carol Field

Greeter – Tom Gerow

10:30 AM

Celebrant and Preacher - The Reverend Caleb J. Lee

Verger – Don Brainard

Crucifer – Cheryl Wagoner

Altar Server – Ruth Gates

Gospel Book Bearer – Dot Erway

Lectors – Marie Ashworth, Lindsay Joines

Intercessor – Sally Pope

Greeters – John and Denise Sheehan

Ushers – Don Bobo, Paula Waterfield, Bill Waterfield

Jeanne Stewart, Jay Stewart

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St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Bulletin submissions: bulletin@spechurch.com (Deadline Mondays, 5:00 p.m.)

E-news submissions: e-news@spechurch.com (Deadline Mondays, 5:00 p.m.)

The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving, Bishop
The Rev. Caleb J. Lee, Rector
Ronnie D. Wise, Director of Music and Organist
Richard Rhoads, Assistant Director of Music and Organist
Diane Matz-Kane, Bookkeeper
Louise Buck, Interim Parish Administrator

St. Paul's Vestry

Layne Dupree
Ruth Gates
Angela Green
Matt Langley
Steve Martin
Joan Rosko Miller

Sally Pope
Teresa Singer (Sr. Warden)
Tom Sramek (Jr. Warden)
Rhonda Stroud
Meaghan Thomas
Merry Ann Wright

Denise Sheehan, Clerk
Judy Wilson, Treasurer