

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

In the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina



**The Feast of the Holy Cross
September 12, 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

Berceuse

Louis Vierne

Introit

Christ, We Do All Adore Thee
(from *The Seven Last Words of Christ*)

Théodore Dubois

Processional Hymn

Sing my tongue the glorious battle

Regents Square

1. Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle;
of the mighty conflict sing;
tell the triumph of the victim,
to his cross thy tribute bring.
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer
from that cross now reigns as King.

2. Thirty years among us dwelling,
his appointed time fulfilled,
born for this, he meets his passion,
this the Savior freely willed:
on the cross the Lamb is lifted,
where his precious blood is spilled.

3. He endures the nails, the spitting,
vinegar, and spear, and reed;
from that holy body broken
blood and water forth proceed:
earth, and stars, and sky, and ocean,
by that flood from stain are freed.

4. Faithful cross, above all other,
one and only noble tree!
None in foliage, none in blossom,
none in fruit thy peer may be:
sweetest wood and sweetest iron!
sweetest weight is hung on thee.

5. Praise and honor to the Father,
praise and honor to the Son
praise and honor to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One:
one in might and one in glory
while eternal ages run.

Acclamation and Response

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

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

Celebrant: When I am lifted up:

People: I will draw the whole world to myself.

The Collect for Purity (*said together*)

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.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

The people may be seated.

Isaiah 45:21-25

Declare and present your case;
let them take counsel together!

Who told this long ago?
Who declared it of old?

Was it not I, the LORD?
There is no other god besides me,
a righteous God and a Saviour;
there is no one besides me.

Turn to me and be saved,
all the ends of the earth!
For I am God, and there is no other.

By myself I have sworn,
from my mouth has gone forth in righteousness
a word that shall not return:

“To me every knee shall bow,
every tongue shall swear.”

Only in the LORD, it shall be said of me,
are righteousness and strength;
all who were incensed against him
shall come to him and be ashamed.
In the LORD all the offspring of Israel
shall triumph and glory.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

Cantate Domino

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory;
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 [Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world
and the peoples with equity.]

A Reading from Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 12:31-36a

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” Jesus said to them, “The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.”

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: As we proclaim Christ crucified, let us pray to the God of healing for the salvation of all peoples saying Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For this holy gathering, and for the people of God in every place. For Rob our Bishop, Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury. For all who follow the cross and all who seek life in Christ. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For the leaders of the nations and for peace among the peoples of the earth. For all whose cross this day is the coronavirus, political unrest, and recovery from natural disaster. We pray especially for the people of Afghanistan and all affected by Hurricane Ida. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all military personnel and their families. For first responders and those who work in the airline industry. For our country as we remember the terrorist attacks of September 11th. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all who are sick, especially those in our parish who need our prayers. For the troubled and the bereaved, and all who suffer in silence. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For the dying and the dead, especially Harold Wade, that for them the cross of Christ has become the tree of eternal life. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: God of ancient Israel, who lifted up the Son of Man on the cross, hear the prayers we offer this day and grant eternal life to all who believe; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The 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

The Commissioning of Sunday School Teachers

Senior Warden: I present to you these persons to be admitted to the ministry of Sunday School Teacher in this congregation.

Antiphon: The words which I command you this day shall be upon your hearts; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Celebrant: We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord:

People: And the wonderful works he has done.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

God of all wisdom and knowledge, give your blessing and guidance to all who teach in your Church, that by word and example they may lead those whom they teach to the knowledge and love of you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

In the Name of God and of this congregation, I commission you as Sunday School Teachers at St. Paul's in the name of the +Father and of the +Son and of the +Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Anthem *Christ is made the sure foundation* John Rutter
(Anthem text may be found on page 518 in the hymnal)

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.

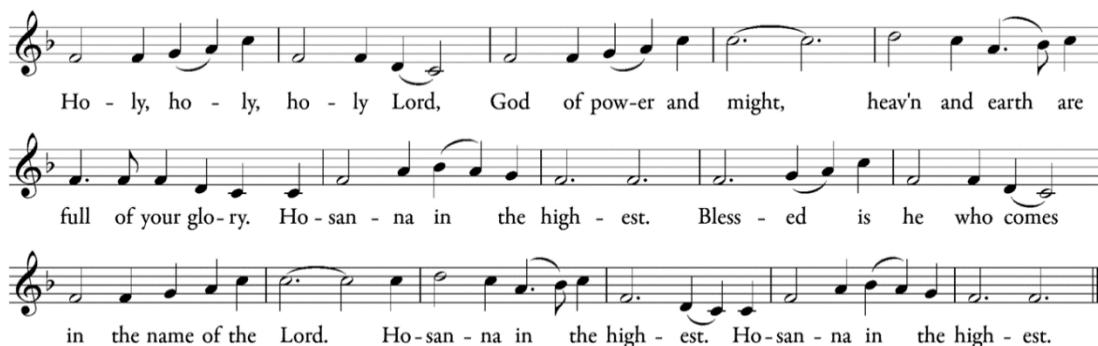
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

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. *2* *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.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Anthem

Litany of The Passion
(from *The Crucifixion*)

Sir John Stainer

Holy Jesu, by thy Passion, by the woes which none can share,
born in more than kingly fashion, by thy love beyond compare:

Crucified, I turn to thee, Son of Mary, plead for me.

By thy look so sweet and lowly, while they smote thee on the face,
by thy patience, calm and holy, in the midst of keen disgrace.

By the path of sorrows dreary, by the Cross, the dreadful load, by the pain, when, faint
and weary, thou didst sink upon the road.

By the Spirit which could render love for hate and good for ill,
by the mercy, sweet and tender, poured upon thy murderers still.

Communion Hymn 439

What wondrous love is this

Wondrous Love

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"

Dismissal

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Litanies

Jehan Alain

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

People requesting prayer

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

Tracy Calhoun Sorrenti	Richard O’Rourke
Tammy Tilghman	Sharon O’Rourke Berry
Michael Justice	Bryce Harrelson
Steve Hatch	Stacey Baker Neal
Emily Marriott	Capt. Samantha Stillwell
Michelle Miller	

For the departed: Harold Stuart Wade

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Morning Hospitality Begins TODAY

This morning St. Paul's is beginning its ministry of hospitality again 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.

Children's Ministry Calendar

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

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

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 – Cancelled

Due to the current realities of the COVID-19, diocesan leadership has decided that it is best to cancel the Deanery Confirmation Service that was scheduled for October 3. In anticipation of another bishop visitation in the future, Fr. Caleb is planning to offer a Confirmation and Inquirer's Class. Stay tuned for more information about these opportunities.

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.

Blessing of the Animals – October 10 at 5:00 PM

A Blessing of the Animals service will be held in the church. You heard that correctly... IN THE CHURCH. In addition to your animal friends, the service will include hymns, readings, and the choir. Special treats for humans and animals will be available after in the Rectory Garden

Upcoming Dates to Remember

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

September 24 at 7:30 pm – Organ Concert – Kyle Ritter, All Soul's, Asheville

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

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

October 16 at 7:30 pm – Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hide, A Silent Film Accompaniment.
Dorothy Papadakos - \$10

October 22 at 7:30 pm – Organ Concert, Bradley Hunter Welch, Dallas Symphony Orchestra

October 28 at 6 pm – Installation of Fr. Caleb as Rector

Service Participants

8:00 AM

Celebrant and Preacher - The Reverend Caleb J. Lee
Altar Server – Spencer Weig
Lector – David Tousignant
Greeter – Tom Gerow

10:30 AM

Celebrant and Preacher - The Reverend Caleb J. Lee
Verger – Cheryl Wagoner
Crucifer – Leon Tillery
Altar Server – Carolyn Demorest
Gospel Book Bearer – Carolyn Demorest
Lectors – Barbara Bucci, Kathryn Hedgepeth
Intercessor – Teresa Singer
Greeters – Gary and Janet Dillon
Ushers – Don Bobo, Dianne Stansbury, Mat Willman
John Yates, Jim Edwards

Cover art:

Christus Rex. Circa 1958. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Wilmington NC. Photograph by Gary Whalen.

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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