



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Seeking to see and serve Christ in all persons

**The Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 3, 2023 • 10:30 AM
Labor Day**

*The service begins on page 355 of The Book of Common Prayer.
The service is printed here in its entirety.*

The Opening Voluntary

Victimae Paschali Laudes
Gregorian Chant

The Processional Hymn

All hail the power of Jesus' Name!
Hymnal 450
Verses 1 - 3, 6

The Liturgy of the Word

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

The People say 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

Hymnal S 280

*Children ages 4-10 are invited to follow the children's cross to attend Children's Chapel,
returning during the Peace.*

The 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.*

The Prayer for Labor Day

Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading ~ Jeremiah 15:15 - 21

O LORD, you know;

remember me and visit me,

and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;

know that on your account I suffer insult.

Your words were found, and I ate them,

and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart;

for I am called by your name,

O LORD, God of hosts.

I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,

nor did I rejoice;

under the weight of your hand I sat alone,

for you had filled me with indignation.

Why is my pain unceasing,

my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,

like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.
I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

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

The Psalm ~ 26: 1 - 8

The Psalm is sung by the Choir

- 1 Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; *
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.
- 2 Test me, O LORD, and try me; *
examine my heart and my mind.
- 3 For your love is before my eyes; *
I have walked faithfully with you.
- 4 I have not sat with the worthless, *
nor do I consort with the deceitful.
- 5 I have hated the company of evildoers; *
I will not sit down with the wicked.
- 6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, *
that I may go in procession round your altar,
- 7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
- 8 LORD, I love the house in which you dwell *
and the place where your glory abides.

The Second Reading ~ Romans 12:9 - 21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Sequence Hymn

Take up your cross, the Savior said
Hymnal 675

The Holy Gospel ~ Matthew 16:21 - 28

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Canon C. John Thompson-Quartey

A period of silent prayer.

The Nicene Creed

All say together

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 — Form III

Intercessor Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
People *That we all may be one.*

Intercessor Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
 humbly serve you;
People *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

Intercessor <i>People</i>	We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; <i>That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.</i>
Intercessor <i>People</i>	We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; <i>That there may be justice and peace on the earth.</i>
Intercessor <i>People</i>	Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; <i>That our works may find favor in your sight.</i>
Intercessor <i>People</i>	Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, especially Elisabeth, Henry, & Wilbur; <i>That they may be delivered from their distress.</i>
Intercessor <i>People</i>	Give to the departed eternal rest, especially Orma; <i>Let light perpetual shine upon them.</i>
Intercessor <i>People</i>	We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; <i>May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.</i>
Intercessor	We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially Mindy, Bill, Christian, J.J., Tom, Victoria, Beth, Marc, Hunter, Philip, Sarah, Debbie, Jonathan, Canon John, and Catherine.
Intercessor	Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions.

The celebrant adds a concluding collect

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Confession of Sin

Celebrant

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.

Celebrant says

The Absolution

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.*

The Peace

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

The Announcements

The Blessings and Thanksgivings

The Offertory

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem

I Will Arise and Go To Jesus
Arr. Alice Parker

The Presentation Hymn

God is Love, let heaven adore him
Hymnal 379

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

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 him 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:

The Sanctus

Hymnal S 129

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 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
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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.

The Great Amen

Hymnal S 146



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

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S 154

Holy Communion is offered via the common cup for sipping or intinction (dipping the wafer into the wine). Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. A mobility impaired individual can receive communion at your seat by raising your hand.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

Healing Intercessors are available in the side chapel for prayer during Communion.

The Communion Anthem

The Servant Song
Richard Gillard

The Communion Hymn

God is love, and where true love is
Hymnal 577

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 Blessing

The Closing Hymn

Lift high the cross
Hymnal 473

The Dismissal

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

The Closing Voluntary

Psalm 19
Benedetto Marcello

Remember in your Prayers

A Prayer for Love (From The Daughters of the King): Bless us with Love, O Merciful God; That we may love as you love. That we may show patience, tolerance, kindness, caring, and love to all. Bless us with your love.

We pray for those with timely concerns: Rea Robles Harrison, Robert Callahan, Scott Edge, Carla Ross, Pamela Waldron, David Gregory, Roger Hines, Cheyne Thompson, the Lahaina community in Hawai'i, Anne Petrey, Elisabeth Stubbs, Dr. Henry Wells, Wilbur Maddox.

We pray for those with ongoing concerns: Greg Parsons, Ed Sergeant, Annie Bulford, Kelsey Crow, Anne Murphy, Jaron Smith, Al Williams, David Waldron, Larry Sams, Rev. Hope Knobler, Jim Myrick, Candy Waldron, Ashton Hughes.

We pray for the members of the Vestry: Marianne, Mark, Frankey, Marge, Mary Frances, Polly, Tony, Roy, Virginia and for the Staff: Canon John, Nicole, Rhett, Dawn, Cynthia, Geoff, Cole, Nicole, Kimberly.

We pray for members of the Rector Nominating Committee: Philip Hand, Lisa Beerman, Kasey Bulford, Brother Massenburg, Katie McBride-Newman, J.J. Thomasson, and Bill Tudor.

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We pray for members of our armed services and their families: Phil Kearney, Kevin Bradley, Joe Clay, Tom Choate, Linda Boyce, Dariel Johnson, Sean McGraw, Steven Puckett, Bill Tudor, Jr., Scott Woodward, Luke White, Tommy White, Zach Simkins, Jacob Britt, Morgen Davis, Luke Eason, Michael Rafferty, David Norwood, Arron Essex, Adam Harrison, Sam Vermilyea, Charles Mathews, Cameron Everett, Lanier Sealy, Beau Massenburg, Ryan Whitfield, Stephen Malcom, Victoria Eversoll, Trey Bland.

We give thanks for the lives of those celebrating birthdays this week: Mindy Benefield, Bill Harrison, Christian Llosa, J.J. Thomasson, Tom Foust, Victoria Eversoll, Beth Gourley, Marc Honea, Hunter Snyder, Philip Turner, Sarah Paschal, Debbie Brown, Jonathan Carter, Rev. Canon C. John Thompson-Quartey, and Catherine Heindel.

We pray for those who have died, Orma Maddox. Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her. Amen.

Service Participants

Vestry Person of the Week	Tony King
Verger	Tony King
Eucharistic Ministers	Sarah Huxford & Wendy Llosa
Acolyte	Mary Huskison (2nd);
Readers	Lauren Gallagher & Elijah Edwards
Healing Intercessors	Betsy Candler & Frank West
Ushers	Hadley Heindel, Brian Lewis, David Martin, Rusty Martin, Tammy Martin, Roy Reynolds, & Cathy Sandlin
Altar Guild	Polly Hopkins & Wendy LeVan
Flower Guild	Patty King

Parish Notices

Healing Service: Healing Services with Holy Eucharist are held on **Tuesdays** at 11 am in the Nave.

Market Mission: St. Paul's Market Mission for August and September has started off as a success! We are collaborating with Abby's Closet. Abby's Closet distributes school supplies to students in need. The Men's Club are continuing the Salvation Army Food Drive. An Abby's Closet black wagon and the Salvation Army donation box along with lists of needed items are located in the hospitality foyer. Please refer to the St. Paul's Connect newsletter for more details.

Kairos at Burruss CTC: *Thanks be to God!* Kairos Prison Ministry has re-entered Labor Day 14th Sunday of Pentecost Rite Two 11

Burruss Correctional Training Center (CTC) in Forsyth with Prayer & Share and Reunion Sessions on the second Tuesday of every month from 4-6 pm. For information contact Bill Harrison, 678.416.2435 or harrytartan63@gmail.com. The next session will be Tuesday, September 12th.

Let's Dance: The Rutledge Center, a nearby non-profit providing person-centered services to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Rutledge clients and staff will be in the Parish Hall on the third Tuesday of every month from 9:00 - 9:45 a.m., experiencing a joyful dance-centered time facilitated by Anne Graner. If you are available to assist Anne in setting up the space, interacting with our Rutledge friends, and dancing your heart out, please contact her at 404.444.6015 or anne.graner@gmail.com. The next meeting is Tuesday, September 19th.

Coffee Hour: Join us for Coffee at 11:30 am in the Parish Hall. Come, grab a cup and a treat, and connect with your St. Paul's family. All are welcome!

American Red Cross: Please consider giving! St. Paul's next sponsored Blood Drive will be held Monday, October 23rd. Questions should be sent to Virginia Williams, vb_williams@yahoo.com.

Altar Flower Dedications: A lovely way to remember a loved one or celebrate an anniversary or birthday is to donate the altar flowers. The cost of the arrangements is \$60 per Sunday. Please remember to submit payment either via the collection plate or Realm and complete the "Flowers for the Altar" form by visiting St. Paul's website or email admin@stpaulsnewnan.org by Wednesday 12 pm to ensure that the announcement is placed in the bulletin.

Prayer Requests: Prayer requests for the parish prayer list or the confidential Daughters of the King (DOK) prayer list may be submitted online or via admin@stpaulsnewnan.org or via the DOK confidential prayer box in the Narthex.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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CLERGY AND Staff

Rev Canon C. John Thompson-Quartey, Interim Rector; **Nicole Walters**, Seminarian; **Rhett Barnwell**, Organist/Choirmaster; **Dawn Harrison**, Music Associate; **Cynthia Meisinger**, Children and Youth Director; **Geoff Mattera**, Communications Director; **Cole Hankins**, Multimedia Associate; **Nicole Edwards**, Parish Administrator; **Kimberly Stokes**, Financial Administrator.

VESTRY

Marianne Lawhead, Senior Warden; **Mark LeVan**, Junior Warden; **Marge Bass**, Outreach; **Frankey Henderson**, Parish Life; **Mary Frances Honea**, Health & Healing; **Polly Hopkins**, Formation; **Tony King**, Worship; **Roy Reynolds**, Communications; **Virginia Williams**, Stewardship.

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