



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Seeking to see and serve Christ in all persons

**The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 24, 2023 • 10:30 AM
Holy Eucharist Rite II**

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

The Opening Voluntary

O the Beautiful Treasures
Appalachian Folk Hymn, arr. R. Barnwell

The Processional Hymn

God, my King, thy might confessing
Hymnal 414

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

The 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.*

The First Reading ~ Jonah 3:10 - 4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

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

The Psalm ~ 145:1 - 8

The Psalm is sung by the Choir

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Second Reading ~ Philippians 1:21 - 30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

The Sequence Hymn

O Master, let me walk with thee
Hymnal 660

The Holy Gospel ~ Matthew 20:1 - 16

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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
People humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Intercessor We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and
Sacraments.*

Intercessor We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations
People of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Intercessor Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Intercessor Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or
People trouble, especially Linda, Walter, and Marsha;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Intercessor Give to the departed eternal rest, especially Maurice;
People *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

Intercessor We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Intercessor We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially
Wesley, Frankie, Sherry, Jay, Brad, Banks, Robert, and Alice.

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

God Be In My Head
John Rutter

The Presentation Hymn

Rise up, ye saints of God!
Hymnal 551

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

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.*

The Celebrant proceeds

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

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word

spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you.

In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, 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

**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. 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.

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.

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.

The Communion Anthem

Bread of the World
Gilbert Martin

The Communion Hymn

For the bread which you have broken
Hymnal 341

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

Come, labor on
Hymnal 541

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

Postlude in E Minor
Johann Sebastian Bach

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: Robert Callahan, Scott Edge, Carla Ross, Pamela Waldron, David Gregory, Roger Hines, Anne Petrey, Elisabeth Stubbs, Dr. Henry Wells, Wilbur Maddox, Gary Henault, Max Thomas, Glenn L. Eaton, Ronnie Peoples, Mike Nelson, Marsha Friedman, Linda & Walter Jones.

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

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, 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.

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: Wesley Trammell, Frankie Harden, Sherry Porto, Jay Macke, Brad Macke, Banks Ream, Robert Hopkins, and Alice Magnan.

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We pray for those who have died, especially Lt. Col Maurice Sigmon (Retired). Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him. Amen.

Service Participants

Vestry Person of the Week	Roy Reynolds
Vergers	Frankey Henderson & Daryl Jones
Eucharistic Ministers	Elizabeth Pape & Scott Seiler
Acolytes	Lanie Mae Henderson (1st); Mary Scott Fabrizi (2nd); Jaden Reynolds (Banner); Rowan Mattera & Zachary Reynolds (Torchbearers)
Reader	Mary Frances Honea
Healing Intercessors	Anne Graner & Mary Frances Honea
Ushers	Mike Scott, Mike Gallagher, Chris Howell, Amy Jones, Daryl Jones, Brother Massenburg, Michele Mattera, & Bill Stemberger
Altar Guild	Kathy Ellison & Dawn Harrison
Flower Guild	Virginia Williams

Parish Notices

Lectors Needed: St. Paul's has a shortage of readers. There are only 3 requirements to be a lector: You like and are able to read; You can attend the 10:30 service and you have an active email address. If you would like to be a part of this important ministry, please contact Dean Eelman at dkeelman@att.net and let him know.

Adult Formation: Join us at 9:30 am on Sundays in Room 1 of the Parish Hall for Adult Formation. Led by Nicole Walters, Seminarian, we will study the Gospel of John through November 19th. All are welcome to attend!

Men's Club: The men's dinner will be held on Sunday, September 24th at 6 pm in the Parish Hall. All men are welcome!

Women's Ministry: Join us on Thursday, September 28th at 11:30 am in the Parish Hall for Dominoes. Bring a sack lunch and come have fun!

Kairos at Burruss CTC: Join the Kairos Prison Ministry at the Burruss Correctional Training Center (CTC) in Forsyth with Prayer & Share and Reunion Sessions. For information contact Bill Harrison, 678.416.2435 or harrytartan63@gmail.com. The next session will be Tuesday, October 10th 4-6 pm.

Newcomers Lunch: All newcomers join us on October 15th in the Parish Hall after the 10:30 services. Come and fellowship!

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, October 17th.

Acolyte Training: Canon John will lead Acolyte training on Sunday, October 22nd after the 10:30 service. All children (6 and up), youth, and adults are welcome.

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

Market Mission: St. Paul's Market Mission for Abby's Closet and the Salvation Army Food Drive continues. 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 newsletter for more details on St. Paul's Community Outreach.

The Daughters of the King: Information pamphlets are available on the bulletin board outside of the parish hall for anyone interested in learning more about The Daughters of the King. We welcome any prospective members!

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; **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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