



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Seeking to see and serve Christ in all persons

**The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 1, 2024 • 10:30 AM
Labor Day**

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 Hymn*

The Opening Hymn

*Come, labor on
Hymnal 541*

The Welcome

The Children's Corner

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.

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 ~ Ecclesiasticus 38: 27 - 32a

So it is with every artisan and master artisan who labors by night as well as by day; those who cut the signets of seals, each is diligent in making a great variety; they set their heart on painting a lifelike image, and they are careful to finish their work. So it is with the smith, sitting by the anvil, intent on his iron-work; the breath of the fire melts his flesh, and he struggles with the heat of the furnace; the sound of the hammer deafens his ears, and his eyes are on the pattern of the object. He sets his heart on finishing his handiwork, and he is careful to complete its decoration.

So it is with the potter sitting at his work and turning the wheel with his feet; he is always deeply concerned over his products, and he produces them in quantity. He molds the clay with his arm and makes it pliable with his feet; he sets his heart to finish the glazing, and he takes care in firing the kiln. All these rely on their hands, and all are skillful in their own work. Without them no city can be inhabited, and wherever they live, they will not go hungry.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Psalm ~ 107: 1 - 9

1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

3 He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

4 Some wandered in desert wastes; *
they found no way to a city where they might dwell.
5 They were hungry and thirsty; *
their spirits languished within them.
6 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.
7 He put their feet on a straight path *
to go to a city where they might dwell.
8 Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.
9 For he satisfies the thirsty *
and fills the hungry with good things.

The Second Reading ~ 1 Corinthians 3: 10 - 14

According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw-- the work of each builder will become visible, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each has done. If what has been built on the foundation survives, the builder will receive a reward.

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

The Sequence Hymn

I want to walk as a child of the light
Hymnal 490

The Holy Gospel ~ Matthew 6: 19 - 24

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

"No one 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."

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 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 of the world;

People 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 trouble, especially Dean;

People That they may be delivered from their distress.

Intercessor Give to the departed eternal rest;

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 the members of our Nominating Committee, Philip, Kasey, Brother, Katie, J.J., Bill, and Fred, and our Vestry members, Marianne, Tony, Marge, Anne, Mary Frances, Polly, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Roy that they may be guided by your Holy Spirit.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially Nicole, Joan, Mindy, Bill, Christian, J.J., Tom, Victoria, Beth, Marc, Hunter, Phillip, Gary, Sarah, and Debbie.

Intercessor Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The People may add their own petitions.

The Prayer In Times of Conflict [*prayed by all*]

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. {BCP page 824}

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 Sentence

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem

Down To The River To Pray, African Spiritual
arranged by J. Guy Stalnaker

The Presentation Hymn

How firm a foundation
Hymnal 637

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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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

The 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, according to his command, O Father,

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.

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

Gluten-free wafers are available and will be served by the verger behind the altar. Please approach the gluten-free station by walking around on the right side to the back of the altar.

The Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S 154

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following invitation.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Communion Anthem

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
Peter Lutkin

The Communion Hymn

Let us break bread together
Hymnal 325

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.

Prayer for those Not Receiving the Blessed Sacrament

[Adapted from Saint Augustine's Prayer Book. For those not present in the Nave.]

Blessed Jesus, in union with the faithful of every place and people and nation, I join in offering the sacrifice of my praise and thanksgiving to you. I believe that you are truly present in the Bread that has been blessed, broken and given. Since I cannot now receive this holy sacrament, I pray that you will come spiritually into my heart. Abide with me, that I may embrace you entirely, and submit myself to your love and mercy. Let me never be separated from you, that in my waking and in my sleeping I may know the comfort of your presence. I ask this for the sake of your love. *Amen.*

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn

The Church's one foundation
Hymnal 525

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Remember in your Prayers

From The Daughters of the King: Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP)

A Prayer for the Nominating Committee: Almighty God, Giver of every good gift: look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a Rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (from St Martin in the Fields)

We pray for those with timely concerns: Linda Tudor, Melissa Odom, Neal Miller, Brooker Wolfe, Margaret Francis, Beth Gourley, Andy West, Dean Henderson.

We pray for those with ongoing concerns: Brink Howard, Greg Parsons, Annie Bulford, Bo Warren, Ernie Williams, Anne Murphy, Jim Myrick, Ashton Hughes, Lamar Toole, Elizabeth Briscoe, Buddy Sullivan, Larry Maze, Saralyn Singletary, Jason Reynolds, Greg Olsan, Candy Waldron, Bob Lewis.

We pray for the members of the Vestry: Marianne, Tony, Marge, Anne, Mary Frances, Polly, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Roy, and for the Staff: Canon John, Nicole, Rev. Deandre, Rhett, Dawn, Geoff, Cole, Nicole, Kimberly.

We pray for members of our armed services and their families: Kevin Bradley, Joe Clay, Tom Choate, Linda Boyce, Dariel Johnson, Sean McGraw, Steven Puckett, Bill Tudor, Jr., 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, Ethan King, Alex Eversoll, Phillip Beatty.

We give thanks for the lives of those celebrating birthdays this week: Nicole Walters, Joan LeVan, Mindy Benefield, Bill Harrison, Christian Llosa, J.J. Thomasson, Tom Foust, Victoria Eversoll, Beth Gourley, Marc Honea, Hunter Snyder, Phillip Turner, Gary Cramer, Sarah Paschal, and Debbie Brown.

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

Service Participants

Vestry Person of the Week	Polly Hopkins
Verger(s)	Frankey Henderson & David Waldron
Eucharistic Ministers	Wendy LeVan & Carolyn Masters
Acolytes	Kate Howell (1st); Mary Scott Fabrizi (2nd); Wade & Matthew Hand (Torchbearers)
Reader(s)	Lauren Gallagher & India Camp
Prayer Intercessors	Betsy Candler & Lou Graner
Ushers	Virginia Williams, Danny Brown, Mike Colpoys, Taylor Josey, Mark LeVan, & John Tucker
Altar Guild	Polly Hopkins & Wendy LeVan
Flower Guild	Nikki Henderson

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by
Mark & Wendy LeVan in love and celebration of Joan LeVan on her 95th birthday.*

Parish Notices

Labor Day: St. Paul's Administrative Offices will be closed on **Monday, September 2nd** in observance of Labor Day.

Homecoming & Ministry Fair: Join us on **Sunday, September 8th** after the **10:30 am** service as we celebrate Homecoming. We will have food and family-friendly activities for all ages. In addition, we invite all ministry leaders to attend and reserve table space to share information about their ministries. If your ministry is interested in space, contact Nicole, admin@stpaulsnewnan.org.



Foyers Group Signup: Sign-up for Fall Foyers is extended to **September 8th**. Information and sign-up sheets are available through Realm and will be shared at the Ministry Fair.

Wednesday Night Supper: We will have Wednesday Night Supper on **September 11th at 6 pm**. You can sign up using the QR code. Also, Parish Life is still looking for a new coordinator for Wednesday Night Suppers. The coordinator will be responsible for connecting host teams and making the schedule. If you are interested, please contact Elizabeth Pape at elizabeth_pape@yahoo.com.



Formation at St. Paul's: This Fall we are excited to kick off our youth and adult formation with an intergenerational formation on Wednesday nights using the Journey to

Adulthood curriculum. Join us beginning **September 25th** for a meal, intentional intergenerational connection, and intentional faith development with the next generation.

On Sunday mornings during the 9:30 AM time Canon John will offer an Adult formation class for adults on the book of Mark and Polly Hopkins will offer a book study on the five love languages of Children for parents. Godly play, nursery, and spiritual formation for our elementary-age children and spiritual formation for our middle school and high school students with Rev. Deandre will take place during this same hour.

Adult Formation Hour with Canon John - The Gospel of Mark: Most likely the first of the four gospels in the bible to be written, Mark's account of Jesus' life, ministry, crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Jesus is the shortest, and yet has a more detailed account of God's good news in Jesus Christ. Mark recounts the story of Jesus in a vivid style, with a rapid succession of incidents. To some, Mark's gospel may seem hurried and breathless. Mark emphasizes the message of Jesus regarding the reign of God (kingdom of God) now breaking into human life as Good News. To Mark, Jesus himself is the Good News of God. In Jesus, God is reconciling the world (humanity) to God's self (Mark 10:45).

Join us for a six-week excursion through the Gospel of Mark. We will be guided by A J Levine's book [The Gospel of Mark](#).

Year-to-Date Giving Through August 27, 2024*

	Budgeted	Received
Open-Plate/Non-Pledged	\$ 46,666.67	\$ 60,392.54
Pledged	\$ 272,625.50	\$ 238,076.92

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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CLERGY AND Staff

Rev. Canon C. John Thompson-Quartey, Interim Rector; **Nicole Walters**, Seminarian; **Rev. Deandre Bruton**, CYF Director; **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; **Tony King**, Junior Warden; **Marge Bass**, Health & Healing; **Anne Graner**, Outreach; **Mary Frances Honea**, Strategic Visioning; **Polly Hopkins**, Formation; **Sarah Huxford**, Stewardship; **Elizabeth Pape**, Parish Life; **Roy Reynolds**, Communications.