



**HAVE
YOU
NOT
HEARD?**

ISAIAH 40:26

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 4, 2024 • 10:30AM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

205 St. Paul's Church Road, Salisbury, NC

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Acolyte: Grace Walker • Crucifer: Hila Canup

Cantor: Laura Brock • Lector: John Brock

Decalogist: Sophie Hoffner

Communion Assistants: Nicole Amos,
Sarah Fesperman, Susan Ryman

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “I Love to Tell the Story”

Robert Hobby

The Ten Commandments *Please stand.*

Sophie Hoffner

The Lord is God, our God, and has brought us out of bondage to sin and death, commanding us to observe our conduct before him and our neighbor.

¹You shall have no other gods before me.

**²You shall not take the name
of the Lord your God in vain;
for the Lord will not hold guiltless
those who take his name in vain.**

**³Remember the Sabbath day
to keep it holy.**

**⁴Honor your father
and your mother,
that your days may be long
in the land which the Lord
your God is giving you.**

⁵You shall not kill.

⁶You shall not commit adultery.

⁷You shall not steal.

**⁸You shall not bear false witness
against your neighbor.**

**⁹You shall not covet
your neighbor’s house.**

**¹⁰You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife,
his workers, his livestock,
or anything that is your neighbor’s.**

Confession and Absolution

73

Hymn: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

II

Greeting and Kyrie Eleison

74

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.



Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

75



Leader:

Glory be to God on high!

Congregation:

And on earth peace, good will toward all. We praise you, we bless you,

we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory,

O Lord God, heaven - ly King, God the Father Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God,
 Son of the Father: You take away the sin of the world, have mercy
 on us. You take away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
 You sit at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy on us.
 For you are holy; you on - ly are the Lord; You only, O Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

77

Leader: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And with your spirit

Stand watch over your family, O Lord, that we, who depend entirely on your heavenly grace, may always be protected in the mighty fortress of your love—through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, forever one God.

A - men.

Please be seated.

First Lesson: Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; ²³who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God”? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. ³⁰Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

The word of the Lord.

Psalms 147:1-11

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises | to our God!
how pleasant it is to honor | him with praise!

²**The LORD re- | builds Jerusalem;**
he gathers the ex- | iles of Israel.

³He heals the | brokenhearted
and binds | up their wounds.

⁴**He counts the number | of the stars**
and calls them all | by their names.

⁵Great is our LORD and migh- | ty in power;
there is no limit | to his wisdom.

⁶**The LORD lifts | up the lowly,
but casts the wicked | to the ground.**

⁷Sing to the LORD | with thanksgiving;
make music to our God up- | on the harp.

⁸**He covers the heav- | ens with clouds
and prepares rain | for the earth;**

⁹He makes grass to grow up- | on the mountains
and green plants to | serve mankind.

¹⁰**He provides food for | flocks and herds
and for the young ravens | when they cry.**

¹¹He is not impressed by the might | of a horse;
he has no pleasure in the strength | of a man;

¹²**But the LORD has pleasure in | those who fear him,
in those who await his | gracious favor.**

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 9:16-27

¹⁶For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. ¹⁸What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. ²⁴Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you

may obtain it. ²⁵Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.

²⁶So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

The word of the Lord.

Offering: Scan the QR code to the right to be taken directly to the giving page on your phone or tablet. Ushers will also pass the offering plates along each row.



Anthem: “Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart”

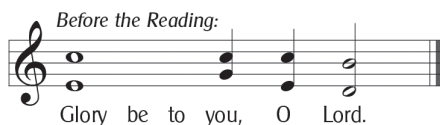
Cindy Berry
Pianist, Laura Brock

Gospel Acclamation *Please stand for the Gospel.*

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The Holy Gospel is written in the first chapter of Mark.



Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

²⁹Immediately [Jesus] left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷and they found him and said to him, “Everyone is looking for you.” ³⁸And he said to them, “Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out.” ³⁹And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Apostles Creed

81

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

Children's Chat

Sermon: “He’s Listening; Are you?”

Prayers of the Church

Following each prayer:

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen

Exhortation

85

Preface and Sanctus

86-88

Leader *Congregation*

The Lord be with you. And with your spir - it

Leader

Lift up your hearts.

Congregation

We lift them to the Lord.

Leader

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God—through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord and Savior, who ascending above the heavens and sitting at your right hand, poured out the Holy Spirit upon the chosen disciples as he had promised, causing the whole earth to rejoice.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you, and saying:



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r 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

The Lord's Prayer

90

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

¹hallowed be thy name,

²thy kingdom come,

³thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

⁴Give us this day our daily bread;

⁵and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

⁶and lead us not into temptation,
⁷but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus, on the night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you; do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: Take, and drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Agnus Dei

91

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin
of the world, have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world,
grant us peace. A - - - - - men.

Distribution of Communion

92

Remain seated after the distribution.

May the body and precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in true faith to everlasting life.

Thanksgiving

We thank and praise you, almighty and loving Father, for feeding us with the body and blood of your beloved son, Jesus Christ. Having received this holy Sacrament with our mouths, may our faith in you apprehend and enjoy your grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ and his Church, and everlasting life. Send your Holy Spirit to remind us of these promises throughout the week, and keep us in the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Nunc Dimittis

92

Lord, now let your servant de- | part in | peace,
ac- | cording to | your | word.
For my eyes have | seen your sal- | vation,
which you have prepared before the | face of | all | people:
A light to | lighten the | Gentiles
and the | glory of your | people | Israel.
Glory | be to the | Father,
and to the | Son, and to the | Holy | Spirit,
As it | was in the be- | ginning,
is now, and ever shall be, | world without | end. | A- | men

Benedicamus

93

The musical notation for the Benedicamus is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a single staff in G-clef and F# key signature. The first system is divided into two parts: 'Leader:' and 'Congregation:'. The Leader part contains the notes G4, A4, and B4. The Congregation part contains the notes G4, A4, and B4. The second system is also divided into 'Leader:' and 'Congregation:'. The Leader part contains the notes G4, A4, and B4. The Congregation part contains the notes G4, A4, and B4. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Leader: Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

Leader: Congregation:

Bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Postlude: “Introduction and Trumpet Tune in D”

David Lasky

We remain seated, worshiping silently during the postlude, standing at the end of the postlude to face the processional cross, now at the rear of the sanctuary.

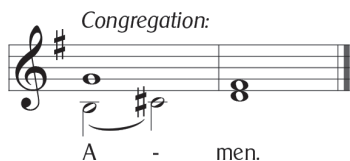
Benediction

93

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift his countenance upon you, and give you peace.



Open House Today—You are invited to an open house (drop-in) at **Organ Lutheran Church**, 1515 Organ Church Road, Salisbury, NC 28146, **3pm–5pm**, to tour the Outreach Ministry’s Food and Clothing Shelter and CATS (Christmas/Christian Angel Toy Store.) After the tour, stop by the fellowship hall for refreshments, where volunteers will be available to answer your questions. Come see how we can serve our Lord by working together, helping those in need.

Thank you to everyone who signed up last Sunday to help with the **Cruise ’n Barbecue on April 27th**—We are off to a great start! Several areas are already fully staffed. **Additional volunteers are needed** for: Food preparation and Drive-thru (particularly afternoon shift); Parking attendants; Outreach; and T-shirt sales. Sign-up sheets are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. If you have not completed yours please do so today as you leave, and place your completed form on top of the soundboard.

Ash Wednesday and Lenten Services—The **Shrove Tuesday** Pancake and Sausage dinner will be **Tuesday, February 13th**, at 6:00pm. Come to the fellowship hall for good food and some fun fellowship.

Ash Wednesday service will be February 14th, at 7:00pm in the sanctuary. There will be no meal that Wednesday, as it is a traditional day of fasting.

Lenten Suppers are on Wednesdays, beginning February 21st, going through March 27th. The suppers are at 6:00pm in the fellowship hall, each followed by a Lenten service at 7:00pm in the sanctuary. The services will last about 30 minutes.

Maundy Thursday service is at 7:00pm, March 28th. Good Friday service is the next day at 7:00pm, with no meals on Thursday or Friday—services only.

Historically and traditionally, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday have been days of fasting for all Christians. Because of the latter, many have practiced fasting on each Friday in Lent.

Valentine's Dinner—It's time to put your "Name That Tune" talent to work. The Outreach Committee will sponsor a Valentine Dinner and game night on Saturday, February 17th, at 6:00. Debbie Suggs will cater the meal. **Tickets may be purchased after church in the Ladies Parlor today and next Sunday.** Tickets are \$12.00/adults, \$6.00/ages 4–12, and free for those 3 and younger. See "What's Love Got to Do With It" on February 17th.

Recent Prayer Needs

- Carolyn Canup – health concerns
- Larry Clark – health concerns
- Carolyn Cress – health concerns
- Stacy Gainey – health concerns
- Lynn Price – Hospice care
- Heaully Stanley – recovering from surgery
- Jane Wilhelm – recovering from a fall

Please see the monthly Epistle for a complete list of prayer needs for members, homebound, family, and friends.

Sunday, February 4

- Breakfast before Sunday School, 8:30am
- Autumn Care worship service, 2pm
- Youth and Family Committee, 2pm
- Open House, Organ Lutheran Food/Clothing Shelter, 3–5pm
- Men's Choir practice, 4pm
- Handbell practice, 5pm
- No Vespers at the parsonage tonight

Monday, February 5

- Afterschool program for Faith Academy, 1–3pm
- Hama Lingle Circle, 7pm

Tuesday, February 6

- Extension Club, 1pm
- Grace Ridenhour Circle, 6:30pm
- Girl Scouts, 6:45pm

Wednesday, February 7

- Homeschool meets, 8:30am – 3:30pm
- Ellen Bumgarner Circle, 10am
- Adult Choir practice, 6:30pm
- Youth Confirmation class, 7:30pm

Sunday, February 11

- Christian Education Committee, 2pm
- Worship & Music Committee, 2pm
- Kathy Ketchie Circle, 4pm
- Men's Choir practice, 4pm
- Handbell practice, 5pm
- Vespers at the parsonage—fellowship at 6pm; prayer at 6:30pm

The first 2024 blood drive at St. Paul's will be Monday, Feb. 12, from 1:30–6pm. If you would like to make an appointment, please contact Alice Davis at 704-855-4930 or pherford1@yahoo.com.

Bible Study—“We believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.” (Nicene Creed)

A new Bible study begins on **Tuesday, February 20th, at 10am and 6pm**. “The Spiritual Realms” is a nine-session series on Heaven and Hell and places beyond this world. The study looks at the many “place names” that are found throughout Scripture that are spiritual realms of existence underlying the universe God created. This study explores realities of existence beyond what we know and experience everyday.

If you plan to be a part of this study, **please call the church office by Noon tomorrow**, so we can order a workbook for you.

Session 1 – Seen and Unseen: What God has Revealed in Christ

Session 2 – Heaven: God’s Throne Room Above

Session 3 – Earth: The Occupied Territory of the Devil

Session 4 – Sheol (Hades): The Place of the Dead

Session 5 – Paradise: Resting in Peace with Christ

Session 6 – Tartarus: The Gloomy Dungeon Prison

Session 7 – Gehenna: The Hell of Fire

Session 8 – New Jerusalem: God’s Dwelling With Us

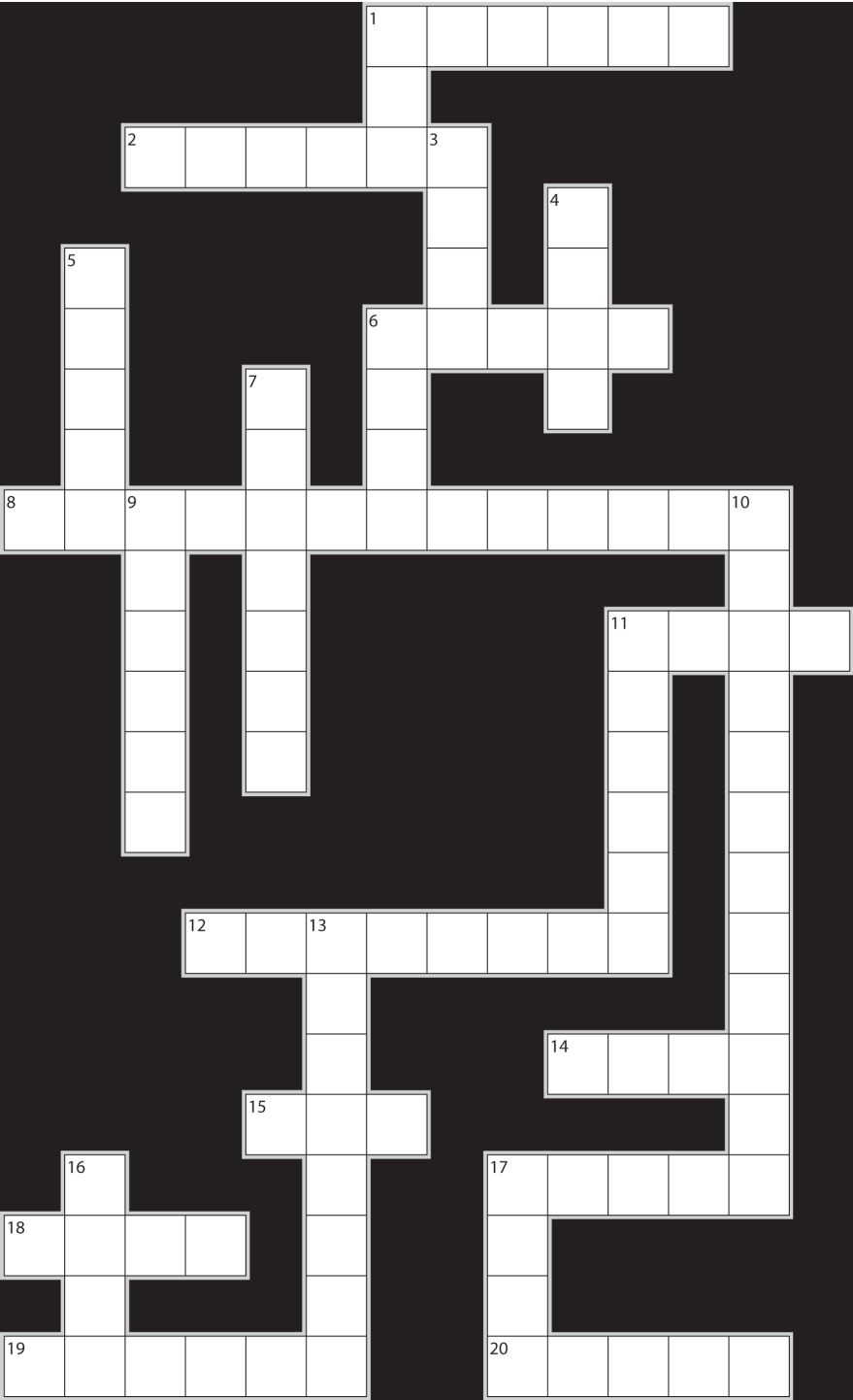
Session 9 – Off-Center: Purgatory, Limbo, and Popular Culture

Planning for St. Paul’s Cruise ’n Barbecue, one of our congregation’s signature events, will begin soon. This is one of the days and one of the ways we show the love of God to a great many people. Volunteer sign-up sheets are now available. Knowing that you will help allows the committee to plan accordingly. Thank you in advance for helping to make this special day possible!

Stewardship

General Fund Offering (1/28)	\$12,916
Other Offering (1/28)	\$5,741
Sunday School Attendance (1/28)	72
Worship Attendance (1/28)	205

Children’s missions change collections for the first quarter of 2024 will go to the Department of Lutheran Studies at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Charlotte.
Last Sunday: \$157 First quarter so far: \$625.50



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Find the answers in today's four Scripture lessons.

It may help with the Psalm if you use the English Standard Version instead of the old Psalter in the bulletin.

ACROSS

1. We run the race to receive an imperishable...
2. Paul preached this because he had to do so.
6. Have you not known? Have you not...?
8. What of God's is beyond measure?
11. Do you not know? Do you not...?
12. The kind of place Jesus went to pray
14. Use this stringed instrument to make melody to the Lord.
15. To the Jews, Paul became a...
17. God determines their number.
18. To the weak Paul became...
19. The reason Jesus went out into the villages
20. When Jesus arose to pray

DOWN

1. This horrific grief would be upon Paul if he did not preach the gospel.
3. The Lord takes pleasure in those who hope in his steadfast...
4. Jesus went out to pray when it was still...
5. His mother-in-law had a fever in the gospel lesson.
6. God brings out the starry...
7. God stretches out the heavens like one of these.
9. Those whom Jesus would not allow to speak
10. We are like these insects compared to God.
11. The Lord lifts them up.
13. They who wait upon the Lord shall renew their...
16. The Lord takes pleasure in those who _____ him.
17. Paul became all things to all people so that he might do this for some of them.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

OUR MISSION

A family of faith sharing the gospel and love of Christ

Phone: 704-633-0922

Email: secretary@stpaulslutheran.church

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

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Next Sunday's Lessons: Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 3:12-13, 4:1-6; Mark 9:2-9

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