

# SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



**Second Sunday of Easter**

**April 7, 2024**  
**10:30**

The Rev. Stephanie E. Parker  
Rector

# Welcome to our Church

**WELCOME**

to

## **St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

We are delighted you are seeking God in this special place. We want you to know that wherever you are on the journey of faith, you are welcome to ask your questions here.

**Services are available:** Recent services are available on our website:

<https://stpaulwilkesboro.org>

**Newsletters:** Sign-up today to receive our electronic newsletter. Email the church office at [office@stpaulwilkesboro.org](mailto:office@stpaulwilkesboro.org) to have your name added. If you would like a printed copy of the newsletter mailed, please call the office.

We extend a special thanks today to all that have been so generous with their time and talents in making this service possible.

200 W. Cowles St., P. O. Box 95, Wilkesboro, NC 28697  
336-667-4231

[www.stpaulwilkesboro.org](http://www.stpaulwilkesboro.org)

E-mail: [office@stpaulwilkesboro.org](mailto:office@stpaulwilkesboro.org)

**Pastoral Emergency Line: 336-482-6800**

**ONLINE GIVING QR CODE:**



**MASKS are optional. We do ask non-vaccinated persons to wear their masks**

# The Gathering

## Prelude

## Cathedral Prelude

*Gabriel Piern (1863-1937)*

## Welcome and Announcements

## Processional Hymn #193

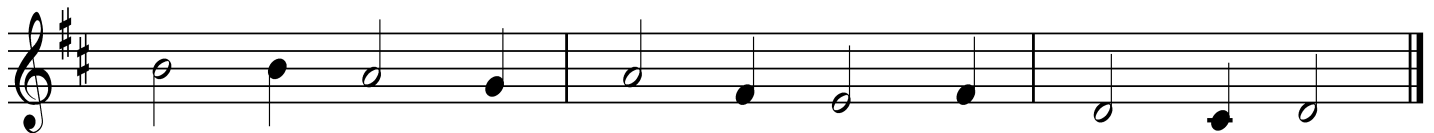
## That Easter Day with Joy was Bright



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright, the  
2 His ris - en flesh with ra - diance glowed; his  
3 O Je - sus, King of gen - tle - ness, do  
4 O Lord of all, with us a - bide in  
5 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



1 sun shone out with fair - er light, when, to their long - ing  
2 wound - ed hands and feet he showed; those scars their sol - emn  
3 thou thy - self our hearts pos - sess that we may give thee  
4 this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide; from ev - ery wea - pon  
5 thee, who, dead, a - gain dost live; to God the Fa - ther



1 eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.  
2 wit - ness gave that Christ was ris - en from the grave.  
3 all our days the will - ing tri - bute of our praise.  
4 death can wield thine own re - deemed for ev - er shield.  
5 e - qual praise, and God the Ho - ly Ghost, we raise.

Words: Latin, 5th cent.; ver. *Hymnal* 1940. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Puer nobis*, melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621); harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised*, 1950; alt. acc. John F. Erickson (b. 1938).

## Opening Acclamation

Presider Alleluia, Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Presider Let us pray:

**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.**

## Gloria S-278

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly  
King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we  
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,  
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;

5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
 ceive our prayer. 6. For  
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
 7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of  
 God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

## The Collect

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

# The Liturgy of the Word

## First Reading

**Acts 4:32-35**

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## The Response

**Psalm 133**

*Ecce, quam bonum!*

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \*

**when people live together in unity!**

It is like fine oil upon the head \*

**that runs down upon the head**

Upon the head of Aaron, \*

**and runs down upon the collar of his robe.**

It is like the dew of Hermon \*

**that falls upon the hills of Zion.**

For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: \*

**life for evermore.**

## Second Reading

**1 John 1:1-2:2**

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are most comfortable*

## Sequence Hymn #490

### I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

*(Continues on next page)*

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.  
3 I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ.

I want to fol-low Je-sus.  
I want to look at Je-sus.  
I want to be with Je-sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The  
Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and  
When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

star of my life is Je-sus.  
show me the way to the Fa-ther.  
shall know the joy of Je-sus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God. *rit.*

*a tempo*

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Words: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934). Copyright © 1970, 1975, Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: Houston, Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934).



## The Gospel

John 20:19-31

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

*All are seated*

**The Sermon**

*The Rev. Stephanie E. Parker*

*A time of silence following the sermon.*

## The Baptismal Covenant

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Presider Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People 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 to the dead.  
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.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

Presider Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and  
fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the  
prayers?

**People I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever  
you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**People I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you proclaim by word and example the Good  
News of God in Christ?

**People I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving  
your neighbor as yourself?

**People I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you strive for justice and peace among all  
people, and respect the dignity of every human  
being?

**People I will, with God's help.**

## Prayers of the People

Today we say Alleluia, for what was dead shall live; what was dark shall shine; what was forgotten shall be remembered, for the Lord is risen and walks among us. Let us with all confidence bring before God the needs of all our world, asking God for renewal, saying:

**He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!**

God of life, in gratitude and great joy we laud you for the gifts of resurrection. Give all God's people hope; for love has triumphed:

**He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!**

In this glorious season which proclaims hope to all the world, may we commit ourselves to work toward the unity of the human family so that wars and hunger shall be no more.

**He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!**

Honoring the gift of Christ's risen body, may we rise to serve all those whom society shames and in whom we deny the image of God, that they may feel seen and loved:

**He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!**

For all who have need of the gift of Easter; for all who journey from illness to health, from despair to hope, from grief to consolation, from loneliness to love; and for all of those listed on our Parish Prayer List.

**He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!**

For all who suffer and all who mourn, that today the Lord God will wipe away all tears:

**He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!**

May this community here gathered have the persistent faith of Mary Magdalene and the surprised belief of Peter and John. May we long to be God's sign of life in our world:

**He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!**

May all who have died be received at your heavenly banquet and may we be one in faith with all of them, for our life is hid with Christ in God:

**He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!**

Presider: Receive these prayers, O God, and transform us through them, that we may have eyes to see and hearts to understand not only what you do on our behalf, but what you call us to do so that your love and justice becomes the way of all people. **Amen.**

## The Peace

✧ *“The Peace” is a Christian tradition deriving its roots from Jesus himself who greeted people saying, “Peace be with you.” “The Peace” may feel awkward if you are new or an introvert or trying not to be noticed. We take this portion of our worship seriously as we live in a deeply divided world full of violence. These actions in God’s house model what we are called to do in the world.*

Presider        The peace of Christ be always with you.

**People        And also with you.**

### OFFERTORY

**Now the Green Blade Riseth**

*trad. French*

*(See hymn #204 for text)*

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Please stand, as able.*

*Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP page 367*

Presider        All things come of thee, O Lord.

**People        And of thine own have we given thee.**

Presider        The Lord be with you.

**People        And also with you.**

Presider        Lift up your hearts.

**People        We lift them to the Lord.**

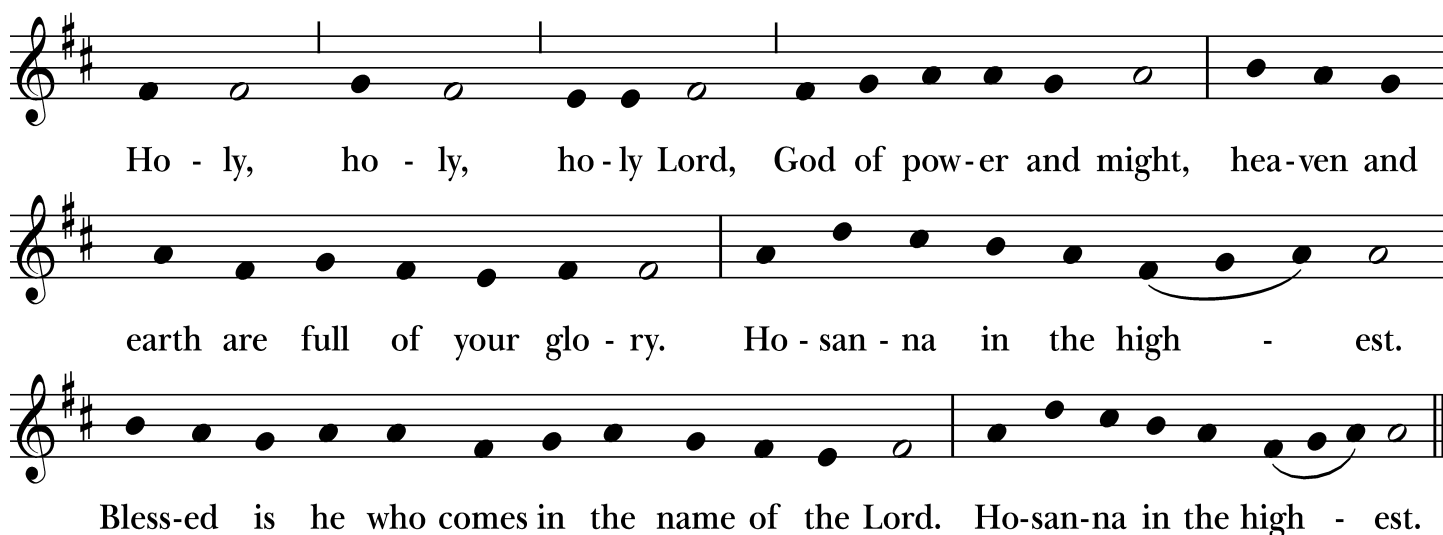
Presider        Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People        It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider        It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb. By his death he has destroyed death, and by rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## Sanctus S-124



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven 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.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

### *Now is the time to stand or kneel as you prefer*

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 his mother, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

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

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, reconcile all peoples to your grace and love, and bring us to that heavenly country where with our Patron, Paul, and 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. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

**Our father in heaven  
hallowed be your Name,  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in Heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil,  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## Fraction

### The Breaking of the Bread Fraction Anthem

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## The Invitation to Communion

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God...

**God's holy food for God's holy people.**

*This is the table of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith and you have little, you who have been here often and you have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, for it is the Lord who invites you.*

You will now have three ways to receive communion:

**In one kind**--this means you receive only the bread or only the wine. Receive the bread by extending your hands, palm upward, when the presider comes to you and then leaving the rail or crossing your hands over your chest when the chalice comes to you.

To receive the wine only, cross your hands when the bread is presented and then drink from the chalice by gently assisting the chalice bearer by grasping the base of the chalice lightly to help guide it to your lips.

**Intinction (having the bread dipped in the wine and placed in your hand) is only done by the presider from the intinction tray. To receive communion by intinction simply keep your hands down by your sides as we have been doing. Then raise them to take intincted bread between thumb and forefinger.**

**In two kinds**--this is where you consume both the bread and the wine either by receiving the bread and then drinking from the chalice or by Intinction.

There is no intinction by multiple individuals from the chalice. Gluten free wafers available upon request.

## COMMUNION MUSIC

### A Repeating Alleluia

*Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)*

### Post Communion Prayer

Presider     Let us pray,  
              **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.**

*Please stand or kneel as you are comfortable*

### The Blessing

When the table is set, **alleluia!**

When the bread is broken, **alleluia!**

When the hungry are fed, **alleluia!**

When peace is celebrated, **alleluia!**

When communities are brought together, **alleluia!**

When neighbors love one other, **alleluia!**

When the stone is rolled away and the tomb is empty, **alleluia!**

And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon this day and remain with you always. **Amen.**

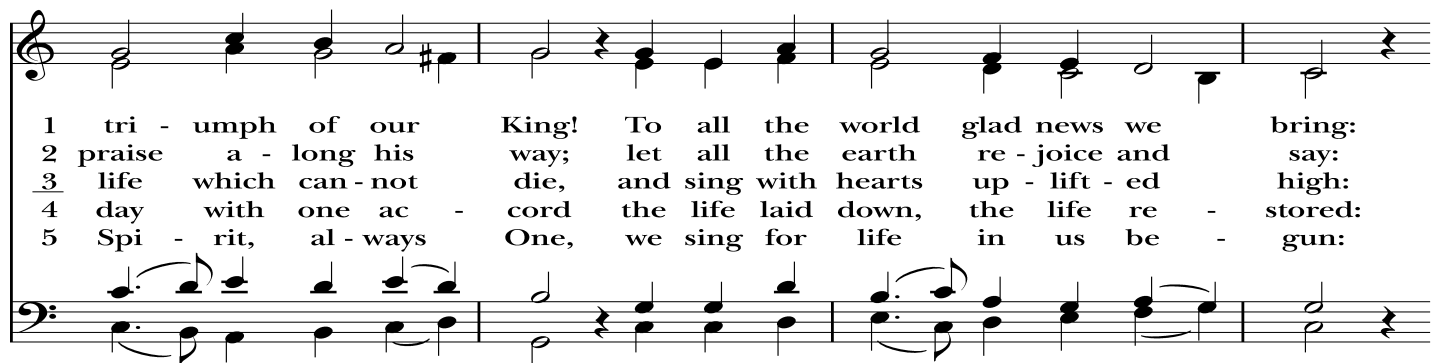


## Recessional Hymn #205

### Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing



1 Good Chris - tians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the  
\*2 The Lord of life is risen to - day! Sing songs of  
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that  
4 Your Name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -  
5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, to God the



1 tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:  
2 praise a - long his way; let all the earth re - joice and say:  
3 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:  
4 day with one ac - cord the life laid down, the life re - stored:  
5 Spi - rit, al - ways One, we sing for life in us be - gun:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Cyril A. Alington (1872-1955), alt. St. 5, Norman Mealy (1923-1987). Copyright © 1958, renewal 1986, by Hope Publishing company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. St.5, Copyright © 1971 by Walton Music Corporation. Used by permission. Music: *Gelobt sei Gott*, Melchior Vulpius (1560?-1616).

## The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth rejoicing in the name of the risen Christ!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
People Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## Postlude

### Prelude in C Major

*J.S Bach (1685-1750)*

## PRAYER LIST

*Please remember in your prayers:* All who are ill or unemployed and those who are on our prayer list.

### **Short-term**

Dick Sloop, Buddy Forester, Jeff Crutchfield

### **Long-term**

Bev Cook, Beckie Mullins, Chris Privette, Ridley Martin and Family, Dennis Johnson, Jacqui Quick, Craig Freas, Emily Asel, Hannah Gray, Mary Iva Gray, Don Dorsten, Aletha Johnson, Hannah Everson, Mike Orlando, Steve Jackson, Ryan Marlow, Dot Beamon, Ken Asel, Julius Parks & Family

### **Armed Forces**

Let us pray for the safety of **all our troops**, especially John Craine, Micha Duerk, Faith Lankford, Cole Griffith, Zach Necessary, Jason Westmeyer, and all others who serve throughout the world.

**Prayer requests can be submitted through the prayer request form by scanning the QR code, or by contacting the office**





**BLESSINGS  
ON YOUR  
BIRTHDAY**

**No birthdays**

**No anniversaries**



**Serving Today**

**Altar Guild: Pam & Drew Mayberry**

**Reader: Gerianne Hannibal**

**Acolytes: Jenny Nelson and Linda Schneider**

**Usher: Ryan Minick**



The Rt. Rev José McLoughlin  
*Bishop of the Diocese of Western North Carolina*

**St. Paul's Vestry**

**2024/2025**

Carol Canter  
Joe Fesperman, *Sr. Warden*  
Gwen Temple

**2025/2026**

Doug Merritt, *Jr. Warden*  
Ruth Harris  
Julie Koch

**2026/2027**

Tana Myers  
Scott Jessee

Bill Harris, *Secretary*  
Drew Mayberry *Treasurer*  
The Rev. Stephanie E. Parker, *Rector*  
*rector@stpaulwilkesboro.org*  
Russell Stinson, *Director of Music*  
Roosevelt Carlton, *Sexton*  
Penny Farmer, *Finance Administrator*  
Robyn Setzer, *Parish Administrator*