SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



All Saints
The Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost

November 1st, 2026

10:30 AM in the Church

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 weekly electronic newsletter! Email the church office at 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.
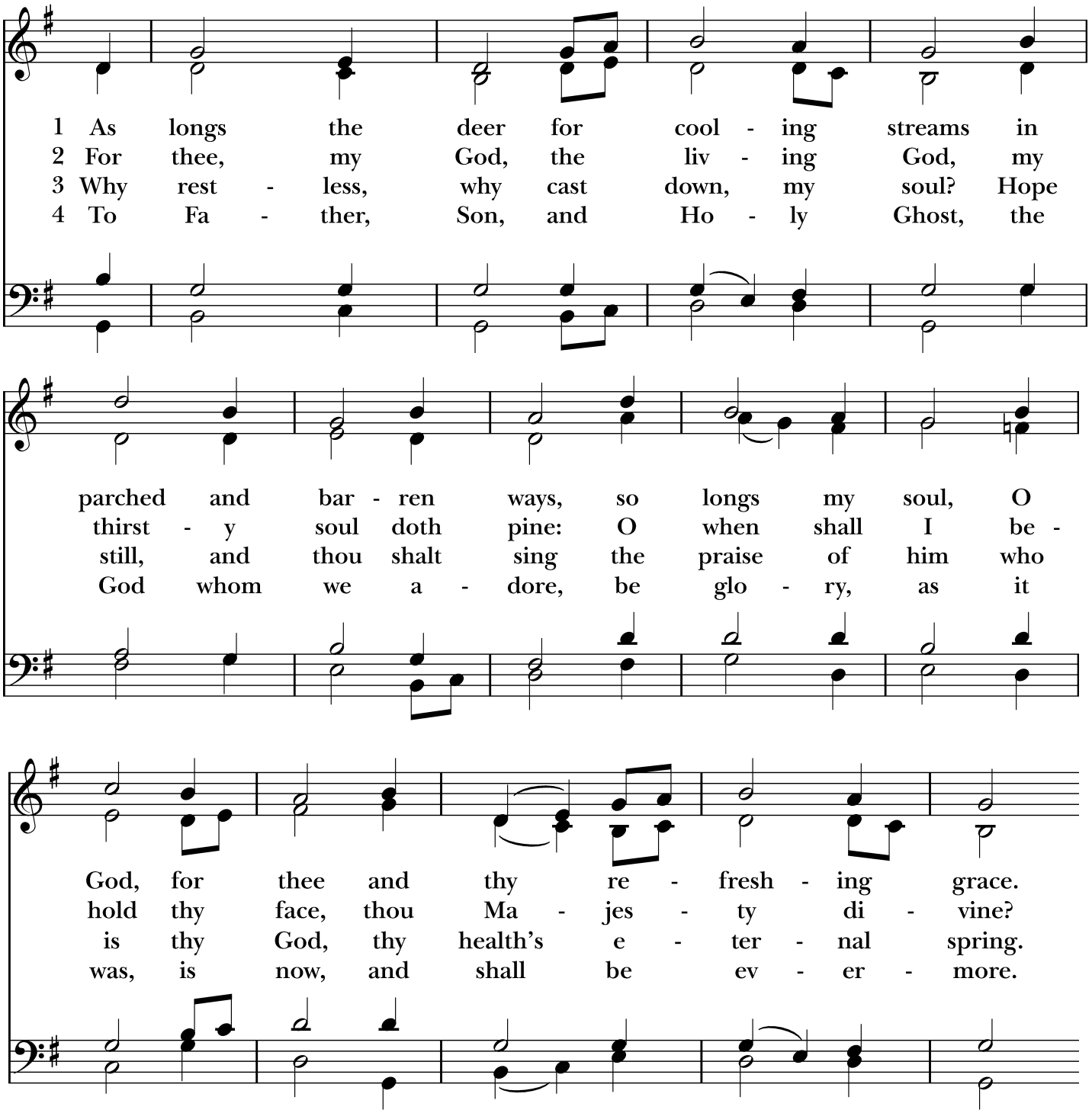
200 W. Cowles St., P. O. Box 95, Wilkesboro, NC 28697
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www.stpaulwilkesboro.org
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Pastoral Emergency Line: 336-482-6800

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE:

The Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn #658 As Longs the Deer for Cooling Streams



Words: New Version of the Psalms of David, 1696, alt.; para. of Psalm 42:1-7. Music: *Martyrdom*, melody and bass Hugh Wilson (1764-1824); adapt. and harm. Robert Smith (1780-1829).

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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.

Glory To God S-280

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,**

**You take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;**

**You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,**

**You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God
the Father, Amen.**

The Collect

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all just and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading **Revelation 7:9-17**

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple,and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

The Response — Psalm 34:1-10, 22

Benedicam Dominum

I will bless the Lord at all times; *

God's praise shall ever be in my mouth.

I will glory in the Lord; *

let the humble hear and rejoice.

Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; *

let us exalt God's Name together.

I sought the Lord, and God answered me *

and delivered me out of all my terror.

Look upon God and be radiant, *

and let not your faces be ashamed.

I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me *

and saved me from all my troubles.

The angel of the Lord encompasses those who show justice, *

and God will deliver them.

Taste and see that the Lord is good; *

happy are they who trust in God!

Fear the Lord, you that are God's saints, *

for those who fear God lack nothing.

The young lions lack and suffer hunger, *

but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.

The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, *

and none will be punished who trust in God.

Second Reading 1 John 3:1-3
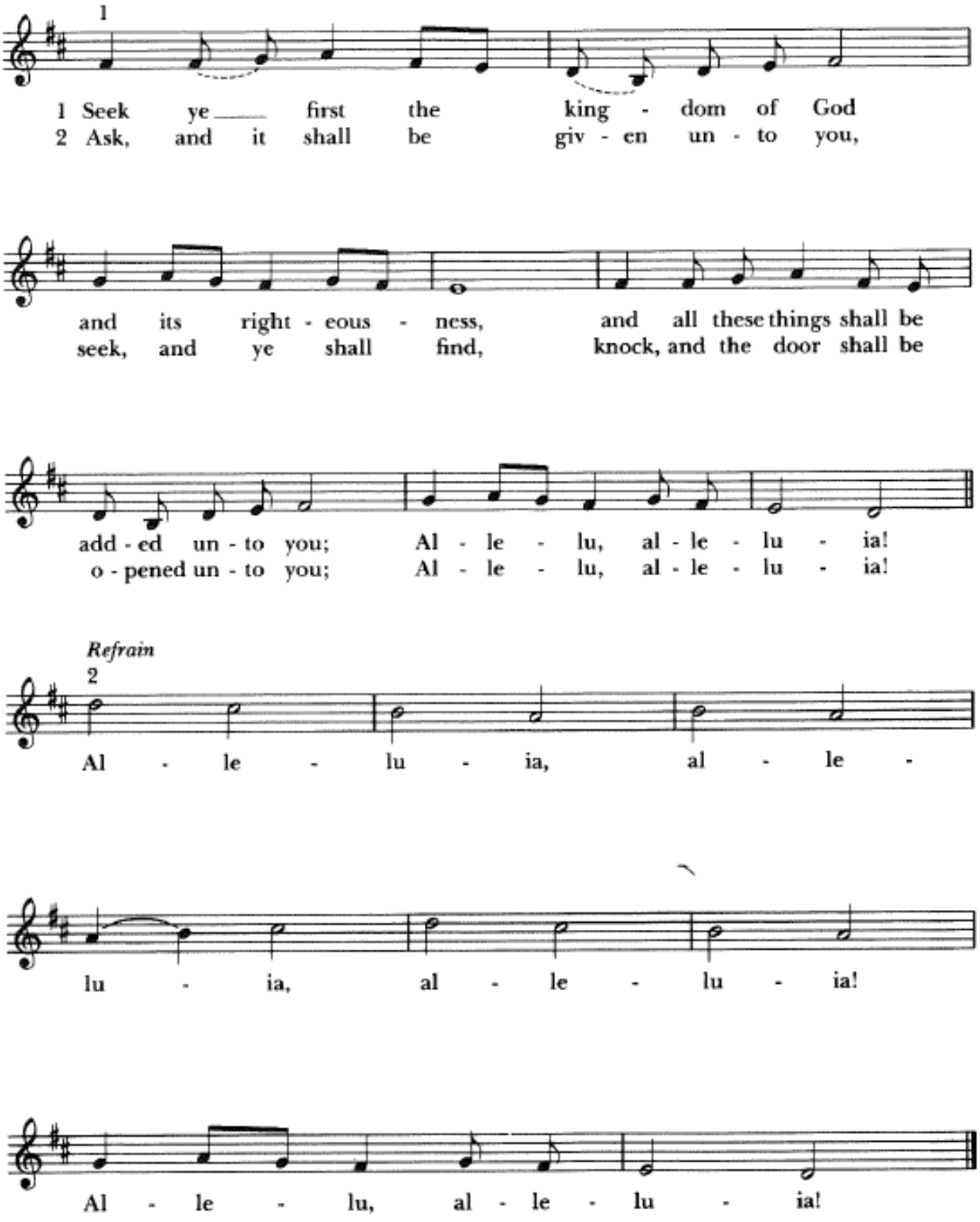
See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are most comfortable.

Sequence Hymn #711 Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God



The Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

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

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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.

Please stand as you are comfortable.

The Nicene Creed

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.
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
who 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.

Prayers of the People

Leader: Bound together in Christ in the communion of the Holy Spirit, we pray with one heart and mind to our God, saying:

People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**

Leader: May the love that flows endlessly between the Father and the Son in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit renew and deepen the lives of all who follow Jesus and draw the human family all together into your eternal dance. This we pray:

People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**

Leader: May we, with the leaders of the Church, and the leaders of nations discern the ways to overcome divisions and mistrust, that all may reflect your unity in every aspect of our common lives. This we pray:

People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**

Leader: May your Abundant Life, seen clearly in the life of Jesus, endure and flourish in us as the Holy Spirit enlightens us to a greater understanding of you, ourselves, and all others with whom we share our planet. This we pray:

People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**

Leader: May our families, our communal life and our wider communities be places of communion and mutual support, which builds us up and strengthens us with your grace and truth. This we ask:

People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**

Leader: We give you thanks for our natural world, which you so lovingly created; help us be wise, careful, and loving caregivers of your creation. This we pray:

People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**

Leader: In the power of your Spirit who joins our prayer to Christ's eternal intercession, we pray for the sick, the suffering, those who have died, and all who stand in need, especially (your prayers are invited silently or aloud here)...For healing for all the world we pray,

People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**

Leader: In an endless outpouring of thanksgiving for your ceaseless joy and rejoicing in the power of your grace we pray:

People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**

Presider: O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Please stand or kneel as you are most comfortable.

Let us confess our sins against God and one another.

Moment of silence observed.

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.

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

✧***"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.

Presider: Invitation to the Great Thanksgiving

Presider: Walk in love…

Offertory Anthem

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand as you are most comfortable *Eucharistic Prayer D, BCP page 372*

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.**

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

In the multitude of your saints you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses, that we might rejoice in their fellowship, and run with endurance the race that is set before us; and together with them, receive the crown of glory that never fades away.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we say,

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest

Please remain standing or kneel here.

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in participation with you, our Creator, we might love and serve all your creatures.

When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of his mother Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without hostility or judgement. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your hope for an end to violence, he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who loved, lived and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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.

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's teaching, healing, death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your righthand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Presider: Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the love of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember, in Thanksgiving, our Living Saints…(*Mother Stephanie recites our living Saints.)*

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light…(*She now recites our Saints who have gone before us.)*

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, our saints listed and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and 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.

In Thanksgiving of our Living Saints…

Sandy Bumgarner

Ruth Burch

Rose Andrews

Gwen Temple

Scott & Laura Jessee

Christine & Robert Beauchaine

Lucas & Emma Beauchaine

Bob Oliver

Mother Stephanie

And all those you would name silently or aloud...

In Memoriam of our saints…

Ken Love

Andrew Southwell

Ron Home

Kaye Hall

Dorothy Beamon

Mildred Tetzlaff

Poeggy Swofford

Nettie & John Owens

Sug & Guy Bumgarner

Bethany Morgan Burch

Edith Meade

Tom Burch

Rita (Gramma) Townsend

In Memoriam of our saints…*(continued)*

David Temple

Janice Earp

Kaye Brantley

Kem Schneider

Paula Bonkowski

Martha Schneider

Betty Cooper

Herman Seidemann

Dot Beamon

Kaye and John Hall

Nelta Church

Mark Deavers

Rich and Ruth Beamon

Mickey and Worth Knox

Joe and Rosie LeMoyne

Jim Andrews

Dick Whittington

Susan Whittington

Cora Parker

Paul Parker

Sharon White

Gene & Willie Lewis

Robert & Elizabeth Oliver

Marianne Triponi

Doug Peterson

And all those you would name silently or aloud...

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction

We are one bread, one body, one spirit. Alleluia.

Let us love one another as Christ loves us—Alleluia!

The Invitation to Communion

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God…
God's holy gifts 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.

Post Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray,
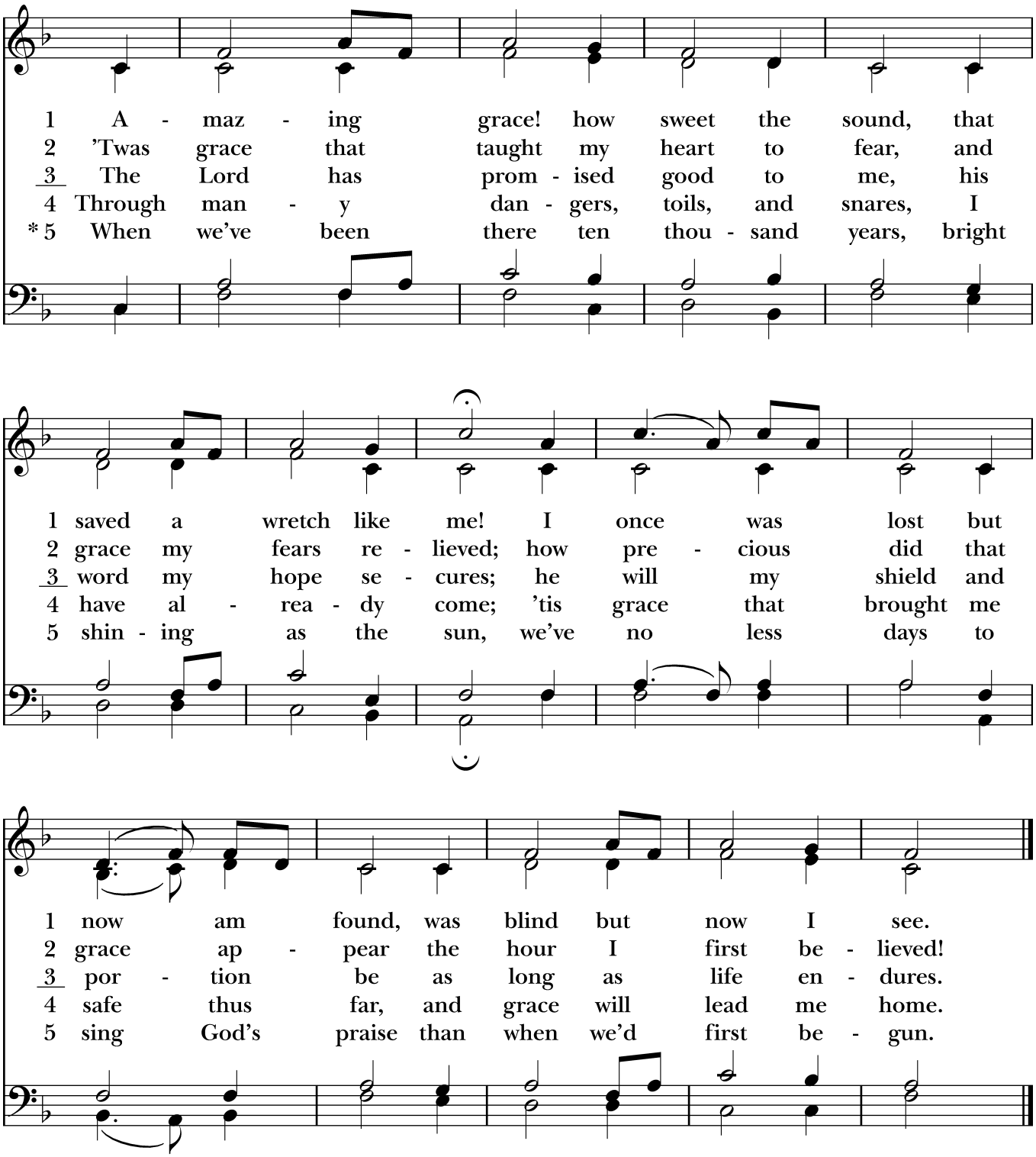
Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Go on your way rejoicing;
Surrounded as you are by such a great cloud of witnesses,
take courage as you face each new challenge,
and comfort when you pick yourself up from a fall,
In whatever good you choose to do,
precede it with hope,
accompany it with prayer,
and follow it with thanksgiving.
And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you this day and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Please stand or kneel as you are comfortable.

Recessional Hymn #671 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound!



The melody may be sung in canon at distances of either two or three beats.

Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, from *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; compiled by Richard Broaddus and Andrew Broaddus. Music: *New Britain*, from *Virginia Harmony* 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919). Harmonization Copyright © 1974 by Abingdon Press.

The Dismissal

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER LIST

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

Short-term

Carol Canter, Ann Reid, Elenor Wilborn, Sloan Bodford, Willie Barber, Kim Tetzlaff, Doug Merritt, Shannon Ryan, Jamie Tate

Long-term

Cade Gibbs, Ray Call, Steve Jackson, Ken Asel, Shane Jenkins, Da'Shon Horton, Rose Andrews, Margo Hurd

For the Departed

Andy Southwell

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 below, or by contacting the office.



November 5th - Sharon Curley
November 6th - Lynn Houghton
November 7th - Chuck Forester

No anniversaries this week.



Serving Today

Altar Guild: Mike & Mary Southwell, Jim & Shelia Burch

Reader: Dick Sloop

Acolytes: Julie Koch, Matthew Minick

Ushers: TBD

Bread Bakers: Mark Williams & Ben Staley

Streaming Ministry: Rachel Minick, Gerry Peabody

Vestry Lock-Up for October: Jeff Beard

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

St. Paul's Vestry 2026

Jeff Beard
Jim Burch, *Jr. Warden*
Chuck Forester
Scott Jessee, *Sr. Warden*
Tana Myers
Diane Peabody

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