

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Second Sunday After Pentecost

June 7th, 2026

9:30 AM in the Church

The Rev. Stephanie E. Parker

Rector

Welcoming The Rev. Torrence Harman

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

336-667-4231

www.stpaulwilkesboro.org

E-mail: office@stpaulwilkesboro.org

Pastoral Emergency Line: 336-482-6800

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE:



The Gathering

Prelude

I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ

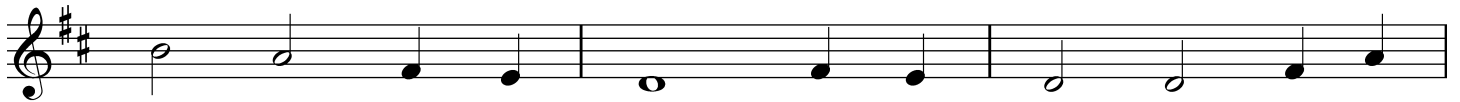
J.S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements (Scott Jessee)

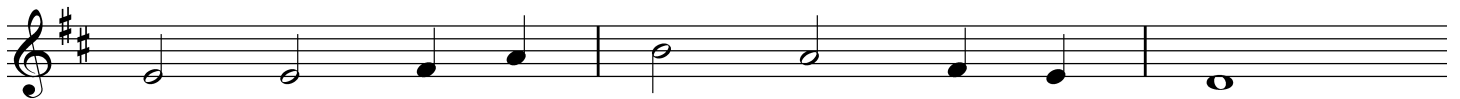
Processional Hymn #686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my
2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly



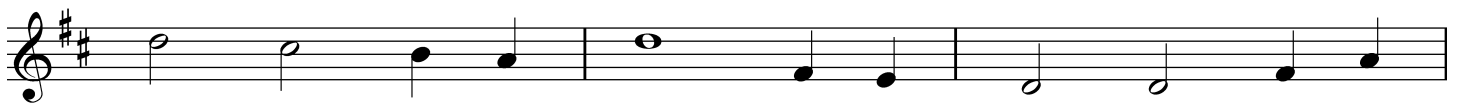
heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er
by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good
I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a



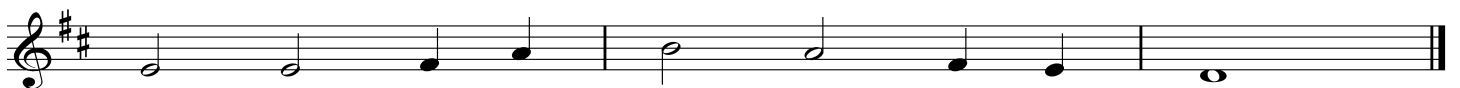
ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by
Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering
prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to



flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me
from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from
leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and



on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Opening Acclamation

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

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 You 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.

O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your merciful guiding may do them; 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

Genesis 12:1-9

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Exultate, justi

Psalm 33:1-12

Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous; *

it is good for the just to sing praises.

Praise the LORD with the harp; *

play to the Lord upon the psaltery and lyre.

Sing for God a new song; *

sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.

For the word of the LORD is right, *

and all God's works are sure.

God loves righteousness and justice; *

the loving-kindness of the LORD fills the whole earth.

By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, *

by the breath of God's mouth all the heavenly hosts.

God gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin *

and stores up the depths of the sea.

Let all the earth love the LORD; *

let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of God.

For God spoke, and it came to pass; *

God commanded, and it stood fast.

The LORD brings the will of the nations to naught; *

God thwarts the designs of the peoples.

But the LORD's will stands fast for ever, *

and the designs of God's heart from age to age.

Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! *

happy the people God has chosen to be his own!

Second Reading

Romans 4:13-25

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

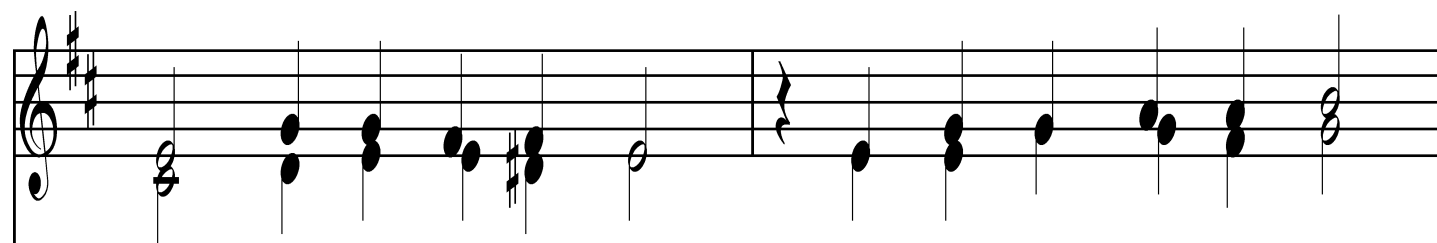
For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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 #641 Lord Jesus, Think on Me



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, with care and woe op - pressed;
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is passed,



from harm - ful pas - sions set me free, and make me pure with - in.
let me thy lov - ing ser - vant be, and taste thy prom - ised rest.
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point thou the heaven - ly way.
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see, and share thy joy at last.



Words: Synesius of Cyrene (375?-414?); tr. Allen William Chatfield (1808-1896), alt. Music: Southwell, from *Daman's Psalter*, 1579; adapt. *Hymnal* 1982.

The Gospel

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me."

And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

All are seated.

The Sermon

The Rev. Torrence Harman

A time of silence following the sermon.

An Affirmation of Faith

We affirm that human beings are made for God and for one another. We celebrate the diversity of our human family and respond to God's call in the world through acts of mercy and justice.

We affirm that all creation belongs to God and is a manifestation of God's goodness. Humans, nonhuman animals, plants, and other forms of life are a part of a web of community that depends on each other. We affirm our sacred call to be good stewards of all that has been entrusted to us.

We profess that all we are and all that we possess, belongs to God. We are temporary stewards of resources and material goods that should be used to serve God and our neighbor. We recognize economic challenges of scarcity, but pledge to live into a Kingdom of God where all are cared for and all have enough.

We affirm that our involvement in political systems is rooted in the Gospel imperative to love our neighbor, to do justice, and to care for the vulnerable. Our political action is to be aimed at a common good and not a pursuit of power.

I believe that the Triune God is a God that is community, and that God created humanity to be in community. We are called to be holy, and are made holy through the saving work of Christ and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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

Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.

We pray that the love that flows endlessly between the Father and the Son in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit may renew and deepen the lives of all who follow Jesus and draw the human family all together into your eternal dance;

Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.

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

Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.

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

Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.

We pray for our families, our communal life and our wider communities, that they may be places of communion and mutual support, which builds us up and strengthens us with your grace and truth.

Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.

We thank you for our natural world, that you so lovingly created and reveals your glory; help us be wise, careful, and loving caregivers of your creation.

Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.

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 (add your own intercessions silently or aloud). For healing for all the world we pray,

Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the earth.

In an endless outpouring of thanksgiving for your ceaseless joy, we give thanks for (add your own thanksgivings silently or aloud) that we may always rejoice in the power of your love.

Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.

Presider: O God, you invite all of us into the companionship of joy and peace; enable us to lay hold of such a spirit of trust that all fear and foreboding may be cast out, and that calm assurance may be ours. Help us to be increasingly aware of the wise and loving care with which the universe is governed. Grant us the truth that frees us, the strength that endures, and the love that makes all things new; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Please stand or kneel as you are most comfortable.

New Zealand Prayer Book

God has promised forgiveness
as a gift of freedom and grace.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Moment of silence observed.

God of all mercy,
**we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. 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

Offertory Anthem

With a Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing,

Declare ye this, and it let it be heard, Alleluia!

Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.

The Lord has delivered his people, Alleluia!

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand, as able.

Eucharistic Prayer C, BCP page 369

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., through Jesus Christ our Lord. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Eucharistic Prayer C invites standing.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust: and we turned against one another.

Thank you for your mercy when we fall short of your hope for the human family.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his love, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore, we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them you glory, in their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of 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.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection,

as we await the day of his coming.

Lord, God of our Fathers and Mothers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Rebekah and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer (x2)

In honor of Pentecost, we will pray in "different tongues".

**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.**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be the 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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

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

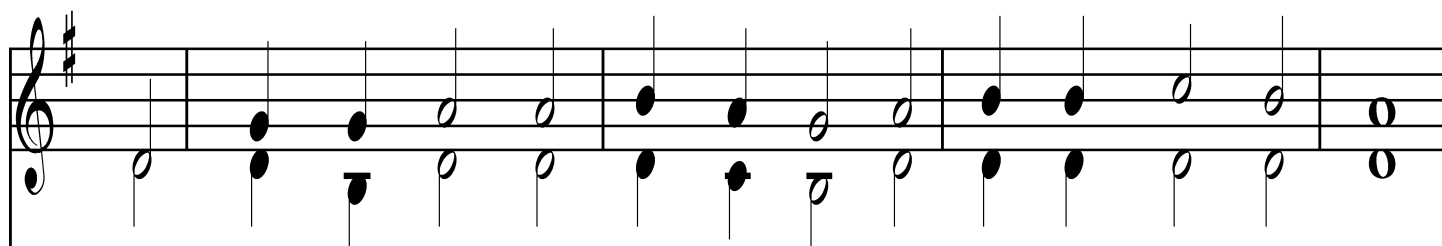
Presider: Let us pray,

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

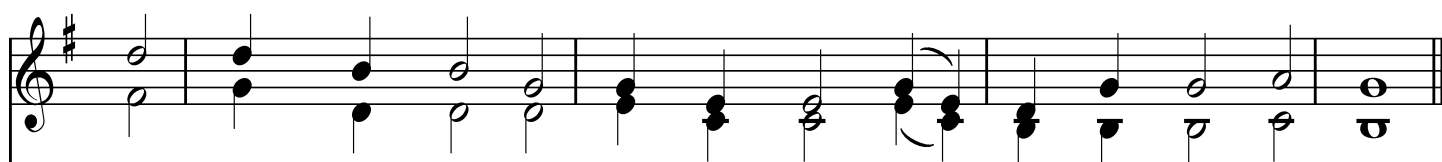
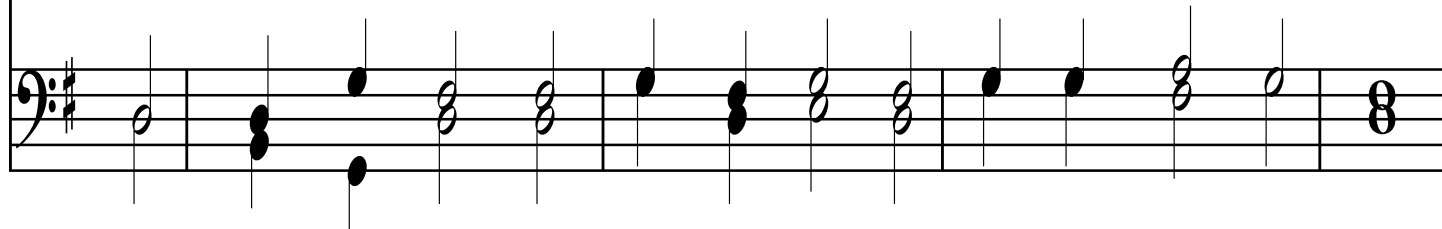
The Blessing

Please stand or kneel as you are comfortable.

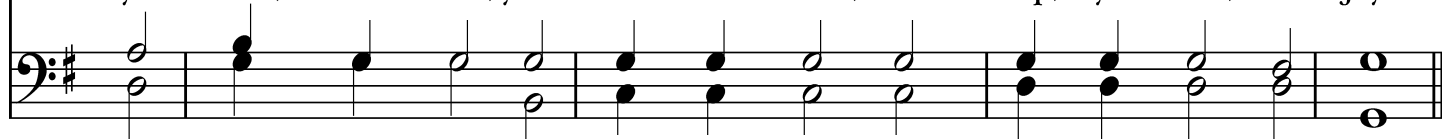
Recessional Hymn #493 O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim
3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;
4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,
5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;



1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.
3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!



6 Glory to God and praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heaven.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Azmon, Carl Gotthilf Gläser (1784-1829); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

The Dismissal

Presider: Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude
Fantasy in A Minor

J.S. Bach

PRAYER LIST

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

Short-term

Kim Tetzlaff, Doug Merritt, Shannon Ryan, Jamie Tate

Long-term

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

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.





June 7th—Bryan Hartzog

June 11th—Catherine Reid

June 13th—Pam Mayberry

June 7th—Daniel & Patricia Bumgarner

June 12th—Mike & Mary Southwell



Serving Today

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

Acolytes: Julie Koch, Matthew Minick

Reader: Joe Fesperman

Usher: Ryan Minick

Usher: Bread Bakers: Mark Williams & Ben Staley

Streaming Ministry: Rachel Minick, Gerry Peabody



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*