

# SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



**The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**October 5th, 2025**

**10:30 A.M 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](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:**



# The Gathering

## Prelude

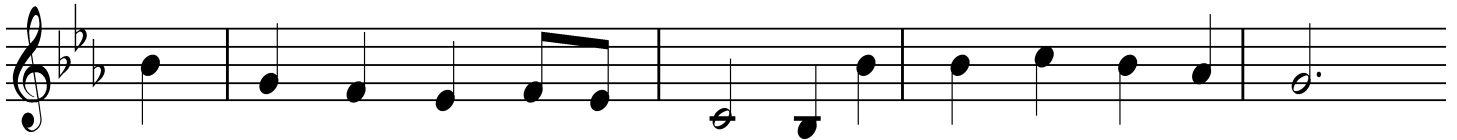
### Variations on "Slane"

*Philip Moore (b. 1943)*

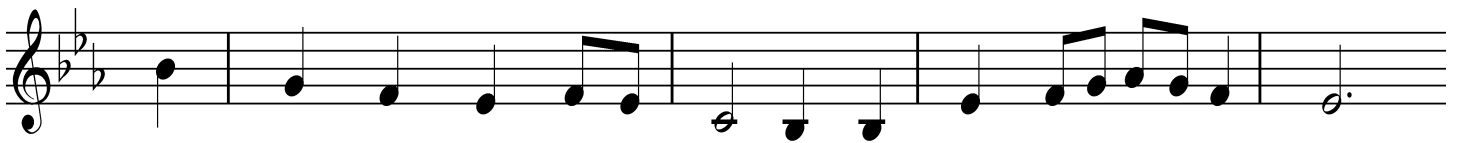
## Welcome and Announcements

*Please rise as you are comfortable.*

### Processional Hymn #655 O Jesus, I Have Promised



1 O Je - sus, I have prom-ised to serve thee to the end:  
2 O let me hear thee speak-ing in ac - cents clear and still,  
3 O Je - sus, thou hast prom-ised to all who fol - low thee,



be thou for ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;  
a - bove the storms of pas-sion, the mur-murs of self - will;  
that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be;



I shall not fear the bat - tle, if thou art by my side,  
O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;  
and, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way, if thou wilt be my guide.  
O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard-ian of my soul.  
O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

Words: John Ernest Bode (1816-1874), alt. Music: *Nyland*, Finnish folk melody; adapt. and harm. David Evans (1874-1948).  
Harmonization by permission of Oxford University Press.

## 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.**

## SONG OF PRAISE Hymn #679 Surely it is God who saves me



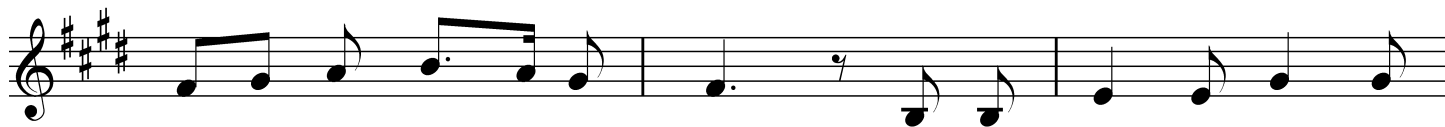
1 Sure - ly it is God — who saves me; trust - ing him, I shall not  
2 Make his deeds — known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed



fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing  
Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his



help is near. So re - joice as you draw wa - ter from sal -  
might pro - claim. Zi - on, lift your voice in sing - ing; for with



va - tion's liv - ing spring; in the day of your de -  
you has come to dwell, in your ve - ry midst, the



liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.  
great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944); para. of *The First Song of Isaiah*. Copyright © 1982 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Thomas Merton*, Ray. W. Urwin (b. 1950). Copyright © 1984 Ray W. Urwin.

## The Collect

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we desire: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are afraid we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; 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

## Lamentations 1:1-6

How lonely sits the city  
that once was full of people!  
How like a widow she has become,  
she that was great among the nations!  
She that was a princess among the provinces  
has become a vassal.  
She weeps bitterly in the night,  
with tears on her cheeks;  
among all her lovers  
she has no one to comfort her;  
all her friends have dealt treacherously with her,  
they have become her enemies.  
Judah has gone into exile with suffering  
and hard servitude;  
she lives now among the nations,  
and finds no resting place;  
her pursuers have all overtaken her  
in the midst of her distress.  
The roads to Zion mourn,  
for no one comes to the festivals;  
all her gates are desolate,  
her priests groan;  
her young girls grieve,  
and her lot is bitter.  
Her foes have become the masters,  
her enemies prosper,  
because the LORD has made her suffer  
for the multitude of her transgressions;  
her children have gone away,  
captives before the foe.

From daughter Zion has departed  
all her majesty.

Her princes have become like stags  
that find no pasture;  
they fled without strength  
before the pursuer.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

## The Response

## Psalm 137

### *Super flumina*

By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept, \*  
**when we remembered you, O Zion.**

As for our harps, we hung them up \*  
**on the trees in the midst of that land.**

For those who led us away captive asked us for a song,  
and our oppressors called for mirth: \*  
**"Sing us one of the songs of Zion."**

How shall we sing the LORD's song \*  
**upon an alien soil.**

If I forget you, O Jerusalem, \*  
**let my right hand forget its skill.**

Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth  
if I do not remember you, \*  
**if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.**

Remember the day of Jerusalem, O LORD,  
against the people of Edom, \*  
**who said, "Down with it! down with it!  
even to the ground!"**

O Daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction, \*  
**happy the one who pays you back  
for what you have done to us!**

## Second Reading

## 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to God-- whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did-- when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

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 #800 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me  
2. When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger  
3. When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws

stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; \_\_\_\_\_  
near, when my life is al - most gone; \_\_\_\_\_  
near, and the day is past and gone; \_\_\_\_\_

— through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the  
— hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I  
— at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my

light, take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me on. \_\_\_\_\_  
fall, take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me on. \_\_\_\_\_  
hand, take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me on. \_\_\_\_\_

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. It features three systems of staves. The first system contains the first three lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next three lines. The third system contains the final three lines. The lyrics are written below the staves, with some lines having blank space for additional lyrics. The music includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

Words: Thomas A. Dorsey (1899-1993). Music: Thomas A. Dorsey; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935). Copyright © 1938 by Unichappell Music, Inc. Copyright renewed. International copyright secured. All rights reserved.

*Remain standing as able.*

## **The Gospel**

**Luke 17: 5-10**

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

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ**

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

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 rise as you are comfortable.*

## The Nicene Creed—Wonder, Love & Praise

1. I be - lieve in God al - might - y, Au - thor of all things that  
2. I be - lieve that Je - sus suf - fered, scourged and scorned and cru - ci -  
3. I be - lieve in God's own Spir - it, bond - ing all the saints with-

be, Mak - er of the earth and heav - ens, Keep - er of the sky and  
fied; tak - en from the cross, was bur - ied— True Life there had tru - ly  
in One church, cath - o - lic and ho - ly, where for - give - ness frees from

sea. I be - lieve in that God's Son, Je - sus, now for  
died. I be - lieve that on the third day Christ was  
sin; in the bod - y's res - ur - rec - tion, for the

us both Lord and Christ, of the Spir - it and of  
raised up from the grave, then as - cend - ed to God  
break - ing of death's chain gives the life that's ev - er -

Mar - y born to bring a - bun - dant life.  
right hand. He will come to judge and save.  
last - ing. This the faith that I have claimed.

*Remain standing or kneeling as desired.*

## **Prayers of the People**

Gracious and Holy God, we give thanks with all your creatures great and small, we thank you for your bounty and your goodness, for how you are present in the abundance of land and ocean, in the cycles of the seasons, and the wonders of each creature, you reveal your generosity.

*Silence*

Teach us the gratitude that dispels envy, that we may honor each gift as you cherish your creation, and praise you in all times and places. That all the world may know your grace and truth:

*Silence*

That we may offer to you our worship and praise along with the work of our hands, serving the needs of people we know well and those we know not at all:

*Silence*

That we may strive for the well-being of all creation, honoring your image in all you have created:

*Silence*

That in the pleasures and pains of life, we may know the love of Christ and be compassionate:

*Silence*

That we may always and everywhere give thanks to you, O God, for setting us at task that both challenge and delight us:

*Silence*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit, in communion with all your holy ones, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ:

**We pray in gratitude to you, O Lord.**

Presider: O God of peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength; by the might of your Spirit lift us to your presence where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Remain standing or kneeling as desired.*

### **Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence*

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 neighbor 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

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

**Make Me a Channel of Your Peace** (*Prayer of St. Francis*)      Martin Neary (b.1940)

*Make me a channel of your peace, where there is hatred let me bring your love,*

*Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there’s doubt, true faith in you.*

**REFRAIN:** *O Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console, To be understood as to understand, to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

*Make me a channel of your peace, where there’s despair in life let me bring hope,*

*Where there is darkness, only light, and where there’s sadness ever joy.*

**(REFRAIN)**

*Make me a channel of your peace, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,*

*In giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we’re born to eternal life.*

**(REFRAIN)**

*Make me a channel of your peace, where there is hatred let me bring your love,*

*Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there’s doubt, true faith in you.*

**(REFRAIN)**

# The Great Thanksgiving

*Please stand, as able.*

*\*EOW 1 Eucharistic Prayer 3*

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: All thanks and praise are yours at all time and in all places,

our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,

the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.

You laid the foundations of the world

and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;

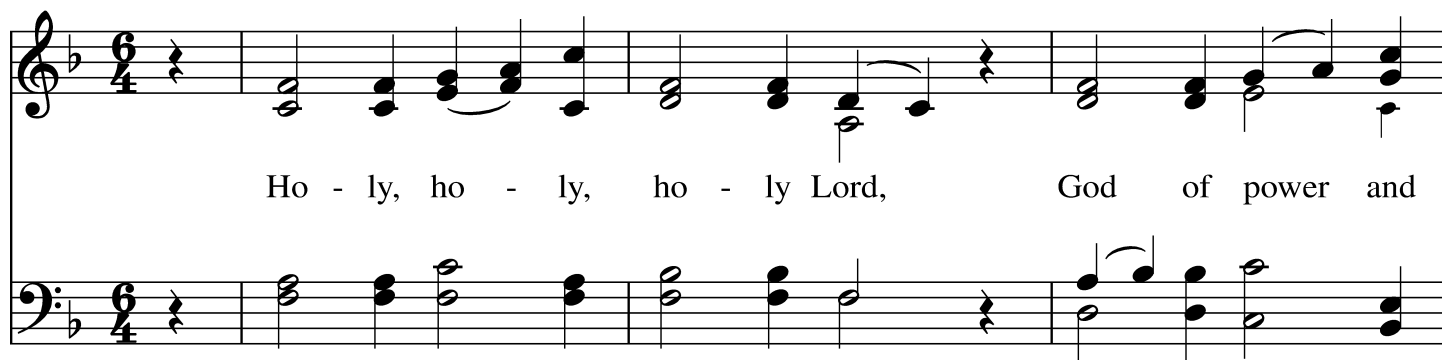
You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;

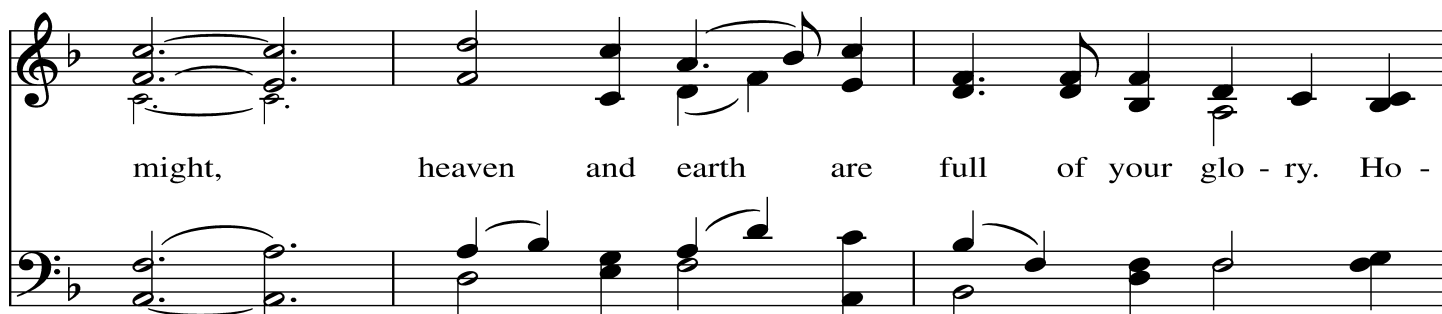
And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as

we shout with joy:





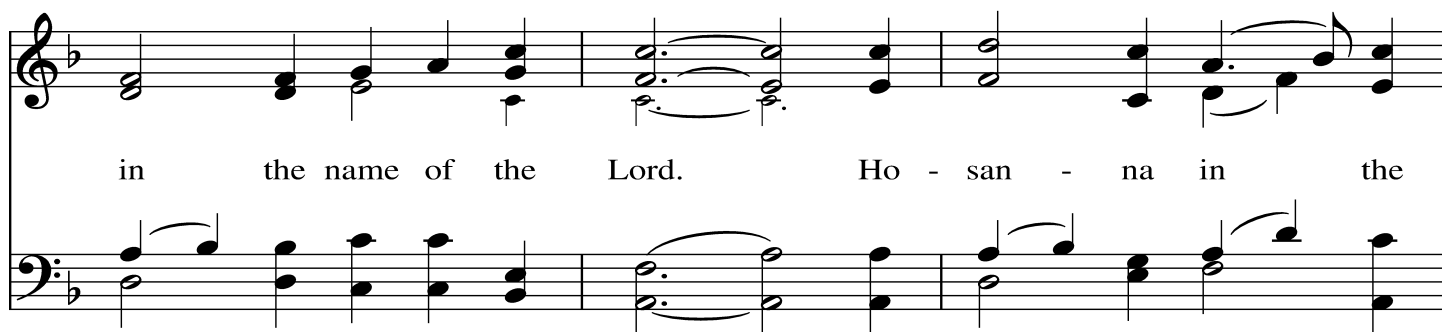
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and



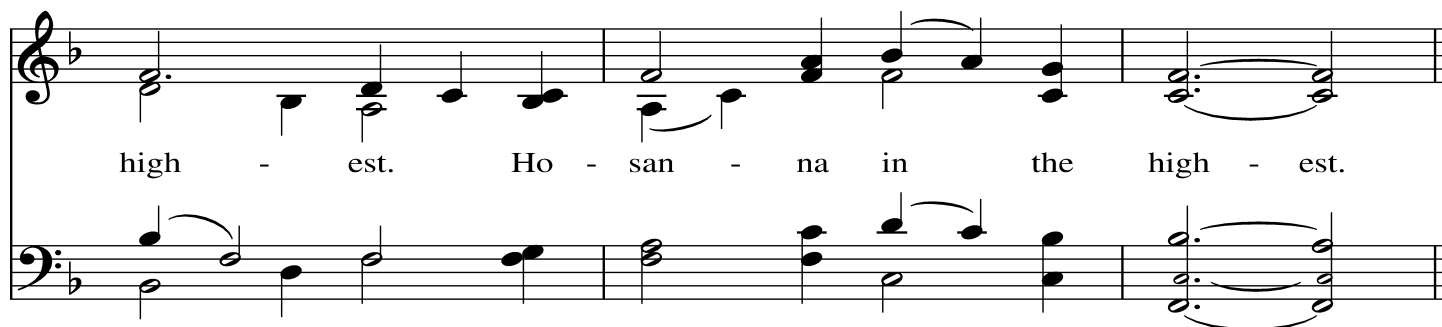
might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. \* Bless - ed is he who comes

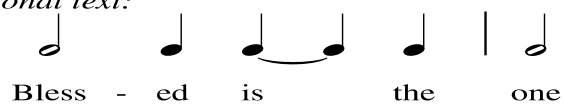


in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*\*Optional text:*



Bless - ed is the one

Music: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner, harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

## ***Stand or kneel as preferred here***

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent;  
you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,  
you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.  
Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life,  
to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.  
Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin,  
brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died Jesus took bread,  
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said:  
“Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:  
“Drink this, all of you; this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,  
poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the healing, the teaching, the cross, the tomb,  
the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting you these  
gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ;

**Dying, you destroyed our death.**

**Rising, you restored our life.**

**Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine  
that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.  
Giver of life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with  
all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

**Blessed are you 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.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

*A period of silence is kept.*

## Fraction Anthem

### Hymn #875 Be known to us

*Cantor or Choir*

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, } in the  
The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus }

1. Congregation 2. Cantor or Choir

break - ing of the bread. Be bread. The  
The dis -

1. 2.

bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia, Is the com -

bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia, Is the com -

*Congregation*

mun - ion of the bod - y of Christ. Be The dis -

known to us, Lord Je - sus, } in the break - ing of the  
ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus }

*Cantor or Choir*

bread. One bod - y are we, al - le - lu - ia, for though

*Congregation*

man - y we share one bread. Be known to us, Lord  
The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord

Je - sus, } in the break - ing of the bread.  
Je - sus }

## **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.

*Please stand or kneel as desired.*

### **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**

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the vulnerable; help the afflicted; honor all people. Love and serve the Lord rejoicing always. 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.**

*Please rise as comfortable.*

## Recessional Hymn #405 All Things Bright and Beautiful

*Descant*



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

*Refrain*



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,  
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,  
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,  
4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



*Repeat Refrain*



he made their glow-ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.  
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky,  
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.  
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895). Music: *Royal Oak*, melody from *The Dancing Master*, 1686; adapt. and harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958), desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Used by arrangement with G. Schirmer, Inc. Descant, Copyright © 1979, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.



## **The Dismissal**

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

**People:** Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## **Postlude**

**A Mighty Fortress is Our God**

*J.G. Walther (1684-1748)*

## PRAYER LIST

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

### **Short-term**

Jan Jackson, Rosie Carlton, Rose Andrews

### **Long-term**

Ray Call, Steve Jackson, Ken Asel, Jason Williams, Shane Jenkins, Kaye Hall, Dot Beamon, Da'Shon Horton

### **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.**



***\*\*Please note that neither Mother Stephanie nor St. Paul's will ever send out an e-mail or text communication requesting money, gift cards, etc. If you receive any suspicious communications like this, please ignore and delete these communications. Contact the Parish Office at any time with questions or concerns regarding possible scams. \*\****



October 9th—Thomas Will

October 9th—Amy Will

October 10th—Donald & Pamela  
Curley



**Serving Today**

**Altar Guild: Drew Mayberry, Pam Mayberry**

**Reader: Denise Sturdivant**

**Acolytes: David Shupe, Julie Koch**

**Usher: TBD**

**Bread Bakers: Mark Williams & Ben Staley**

**Vestry Lock-Up for October: Scott Jessee**



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

**St. Paul's Vestry 2025**

**Jeff Beard**

**Chuck Forester, Jr. Warden**

**Ruth Harris**

**Julie Koch**

**Scott Jessee, Sr. Warden**

**Tana Myers**

**Diane Peabody**

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Bill Harris, *Secretary*

Drew Mayberry, *Treasurer*

The Rev. Stephanie E. Parker, *Rector*  
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Russell Stinson, *Director of Music*

Roosevelt Carlton, *Sexton*

Penny Farmer, *Finance Administrator*

Robyn Setzer, *Parish Administrator*