

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 2021

10:30am

The Rt. Rev José McLoughlin
Bishop of Western North Carolina

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 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

Serving Today:

Reader: Tana Myers

Altar Guild: Laurie Love, Ramona Curtis, & Tom Carnes

The Gathering

Prelude

Adagio Cantabile (from Sonata No. 1)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Welcome and Announcements

All stand, as able.

Processional Hymn #522

Music continues on next page.

Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken (stanzas 1 & 4)

Descant

4 Blest in - hab - it - ants of Zi - on, washed in the Re -

1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, ci - ty
2 See! the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e -
3 Round each ha - bi - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and
4 Blest in - hab - it - ants of Zi - on, washed in the Re -

deem - er's blood! Whom their souls re -

of our God; he whose word can - not be
ter - nal love, well sup - ply thy sons and
fire ap - pear for a glo - ry and a
deem - er's blood! Je - sus, whom their souls re -

ly on, makes them kings and priests to God.

bro - ken formed thee for his own a - bode;
 daugh - ters and all fear of want re - move.
 cov - ering, show - ing that the Lord is near.
 ly on, makes them kings and priests to God.

'Tis his love his peo - ple raise o - ver

on the Rock of A - ges found - ed, what can shake thy
 Who can faint, when such a riv - er ev - er will their
 Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner, light by night, and
 'Tis his love his peo - ple rais - es o - ver self to

self to reign and as priests, his

sure re - pose? With sal - va - tion's walls sur -
 thirst as - suage? Grace which, like the Lord, the
 shade by day, safe they feed up - on the
 reign as kings: and as priests, his sol - emn

sol - emn prais - es each an of - fering brings.
 round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
 giv - er nev - er fails from age to age.
 man - na which he gives them when they pray.
 prais - es each for a thank - of - fering brings.

Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt. Music: *Austria*, Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809); desc. Michael E. Young (b. 1939) Copyright ©1979, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Opening Acclamation

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

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

Collect for Purity

Celebrant 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.**

A Song of Praise S-236

Glory to You, Lord God of Our Fathers

**Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.**

**Glory to you for the
radiance of your holy Name;
we will praise you and
highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;
on the throne of you majesty, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, seated between the cherubim;
we will praise you and
highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you, beholding the depths;
in the high vault of heaven,
glory to you.**

**Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
we will praise you and
highly exalt you for ever.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray,
O God, because without you we are not able to please you,
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and
rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

All are seated.

Liturgy of the Word

The First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens--
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;

I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.

It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Psalm 116:1-8

I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

The cords of death entangled me;
the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
I came to grief and sorrow.

Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: *
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."

Gracious is the LORD and righteous; *
our God is full of compassion.

The LORD watches over the innocent; *
I was brought very low, and he helped me.

Turn again to your rest, O my soul, *
for the LORD has treated you well.

For you have rescued my life from death, *
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.

I will walk in the presence of the LORD *
in the land of the living.

The Second Reading

James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and

with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
 People Thanks be to God.

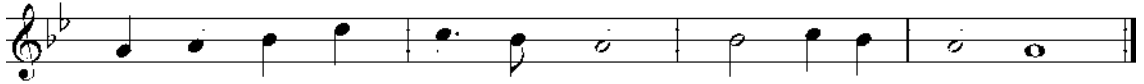
Sequence Hymn #443
From God Christ's Deity Came Forth (stanzas 1, 2, & 5)



1 From God Christ's de - i - ty came forth, his man-hood from hu -
 2 He joined with guests at wed - ding feast, yet in the wil - der -
 3 The dis - so - lute he did not scorn, nor turn from those who
 4 He did not dis - re - gard the sick; to sim - ple ones his
 5 Who then, my Lord, com - pares with you? The Watch - er slept, the



1 man - i - ty; his priest - hood from Mel - chi - ze - dek, his
 2 ness did fast; he taught with - in the tem - ple's gates; his
 3 were in sin; he for the right - eous did re - joice but
 4 word was given; and he de - scend - ed to the earth and
 5 Great was small, the Pure bap - tized, the Life who died, the



1 roy - al - ty from Da - vid's tree: praised be his One - ness.
 2 peo - ple saw him die at last: praised be his teach - ing.
 3 bade the fall - en to come in: praised be his mer - cy.
 4 his work done, went up to heaven: praised be his com - ing.
 5 King a - based to hon - or all: praised be your glo - ry.

Words: Ephrem of Edessa (4th cent.); tr. John Howard Rhys (b. 1917); adapt. and alt. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund
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Please stand or sit as you are most comfortable for the Gospel.

The Gospel

Mark 8:27-38

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

Mother Stephanie E. Parker

A period of silence follows the sermon. Please stand, as able.

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 be May our families, our communal life and our wider communities places of communion and mutual support, which builds us up and strengthens us with your grace and truth. We pray especially for....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....For healing for all the world we pray:

People By faith, with thanksgiving.

12 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 Almighty God, when our vision for fails and our understanding is darkened, when the ways of life seem hard and the brightness of life is fading, grant us wisdom which deepens faith and enlarges trust, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People **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.**

Celebrant 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.

Peace be with you.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer B

Offertory

I Vow to Thee, My Country

Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

I vow to thee, my country—all earthly things above—
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love.
The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best.
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago,
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know.
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King.
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her shining bounds increase.
And her ways are ways of gentleness and her paths are peace.

Celebrant All things come of the, O Lord,
People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface said here.

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

Sanctus: S-125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Remain standing or kneel here for prayer of consecration.

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 the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. 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."¹⁵

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."

**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, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with 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 it is 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

Fraction Anthem: S154 (*sung by all*)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

A period of silence is kept.

The Invitation to Communion

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God...

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 may receive communion by one of two ways: in one kind, receiving the wafer by placing your right hand over the palm of the left and raising it toward the celebrant, receiving the wafer in your palm without wine. You may also receive by intinction, by which when receiving communion, you keep your arms and hands by your sides and the celebrant will dip the wafer into the wine and place it on your tongue.

Gluten free wafers available upon request.

Communion Music

Adagio for Strings

Samuel Barber (1910-1981)

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

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.

Stand, as able.

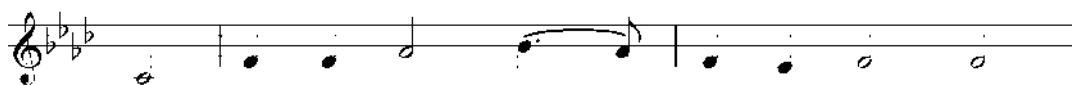
The Blessing

Presider May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you this day and remain with you always.

All AMEN!

Recessional Hymn #675

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said



1 Take up your cross, the Sa - vior said, if
2 Take up your cross, let not its weight fill
3 Take up your cross, heed not the shame, and
4 Take up your cross, then, in his strength, and
5 Take up your cross, and fol - low Christ, nor



1 you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
2 your weak spi - rit with a - larm; his strength shall bear your
3 let your fool - ish heart be still; the Lord for you ac -
4 calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave; it guides you to a -
5 think till death to lay it down; for on - ly those who



1 will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
2 spi - rit up, and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.
3 cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.
4 bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave,
5 bear the cross may hope to wear the glo - rious crown.

Words: Charles William Everest (1814-1877), alt. Music: Bourbon, melody arr. Freeman Lewis (1780-1859);
harm. John Leon Hooker (b. 1941) Copyright ©1981, John Hooker. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Dismissal

Children are invited to join in the recession and help with 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

“Jerusalem”

C. Hubert Parry (1848-1918)

**MASKS ARE RQUIRED
for all persons, vaccinated
or unvaccinated per the
most recent CDC
guidelines.**



Sign up today!
Sign ups for altar flowers are
posted in the commons.

**Flowers given by Reba &
Susan Whittington in
memory of
Dick Whittington**



CLOTHING DRIVE

Our clothing ministry is in need of clothing, specifically:

- Men's shoes, size 8-10
- Women's shoes, size 8-9
- Men's shirts, size large
- Women's tops, size large
- Women's pants, size large
- Preteen clothing

Please consider providing appropriate, "modern/casual" clothing to our neighbors in need as a vitally important and necessary act of love for our neighbors.

Often, the clothing items and shoes received are not of the quality or type that would best show our desire to support those who come to us.

Please consider donating only new or very gently used items to this important cause. We appreciate your generosity and please consider the question: "Would I wear this?"

Let's offer the best of who we are to help our neighbors!

Prayer List

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

Short-term

Laurence Virgil Hawkins, Ken Love, Wes Martin, Kris & Tara Riley, Jeff Smith, Joyce Wheeling, Susan Whittington

Long-term

Dot Beamon, Christina Floyd, Kitty Owens, David Temple

Armed Forces

Let us pray for the safety of **all our troops**, especially Micha Duerk, Cole Griffith, Zach Necessary, Walker Pardue, Philip Southwell, Mark Stone, Jason Westmeyer, and all others who serve in Iraq, Afghanistan and throughout the world.

Please send to the church office the addresses of troops with connections to



Sept 12—Bailey Koch

Sept 12—James Southwell

Sept 15—Whit Loflin

Sept 16—James Lyall

Sept 18—James Sturdivant



No anniversaries this week!



St. Paul's Vestry

Doug Merritt
Ramona Curtis
Doug Morris
Mark Williams, *Sr. Warden*

Richard Barber
Beverly Cook
Richard Searcy

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

Bill Harris, *Secretary*
John Harwell, *Treasurer*

The Rt. Rev. José McLoughlin, *Bishop of the Diocese of WNC*
The Rev. Stephanie E. Parker, *Rector*
rector@stpaulwilkesboro.org
The Rev. Dn. Susan Whittington, *Deacon*
The Rev. Carl Elledge, *Pastoral Assistant*
Morgen Love, *Parish Administrator*
Russell Stinson, *Director of Music*
Roosevelt Carlton, *Sexton*