

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Fifth Sunday in Lent

**March 17, 2024
One Body-One Service
9:30 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 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:



**MASKS are optional. We
do ask nonvaccinated
persons to wear their
masks**

The Gathering

Prelude

Variations on “Adore te, devote”

Dale Wood (1934-2003)

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand as you are most comfortable

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #441, 1-3 and 5

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music with lyrics. The first system covers the first line of the hymn, the second system covers the second line, and the third system covers the third line. The lyrics are as follows:

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the
*5 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing

1 o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of
2 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
3 love up - on my way, from the cross the
4 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that
5 o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of

1 sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
2 cross for - sake me: lo, it glows with peace and joy.
3 ra - diance stream - ing adds new lus - ter to the day.
4 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.
5 sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.

Words: John Bowring (1792-1872). Music: *Rathbun*, Ithamar Conkey (1815-1867).

Please remain standing as you are most comfortable

Opening Acclamation

Presider: Blessed be the God of our salvation:

People: Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

Presider: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8,9*

Confession of Sin

Please stand or kneel as you are most comfortable

The New Zealand Prayer Book, page 479

Presider: In God there is forgiveness.

Loving and all-seeing God,
**forgive us where we have failed to support one another
and to be what we claim to be.
Forgive us where we have failed to serve you;
and where our thoughts and actions have been
contrary to yours we ask pardon.**

Presider: God forgives us; be at peace.

Moment of silence observed.

Presider: Rejoice and be glad, for Christ is resurrection,
reconciliation for all the human race.

We shall all be one in Christ,
**one in our life together.
Praise God who has created us,
praise to God who has accepted us,
praise to God who send us into the world.**

Please stand as you are most comfortable

The Collect

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word

Please be seated

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

People Thanks be to God.

The Response

Psalm 119:9-16

In quo corrigit?

How shall a young person cleanse their way? *

By keeping to your words.

With our whole heart we seek you; *

let us not stray from your commandments.

We treasure your promise in our hearts, *

that we may not sin against you.

Blessed are you, O God; *

instruct us in your statutes.

With our lips will I recite *

all the judgments of your mouth.

We have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees *

than in all manner of riches.

We will meditate on your commandments *

and give attention to your ways.

Our delight is in your statutes; *

We will not forget your word.

The Second Reading

Hebrews 5:5-10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,

today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,

according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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

People Thanks be to God.

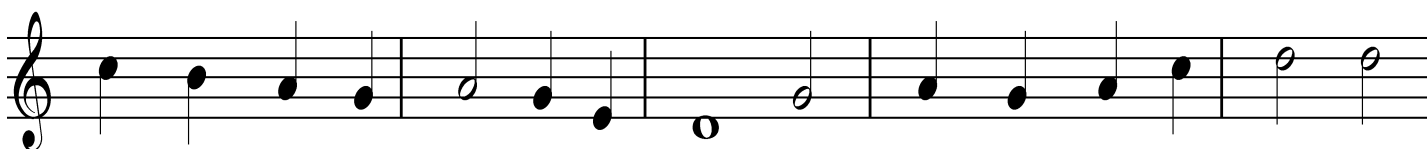
Sequence Hymn #439

What Wondrous Love is This

Unison



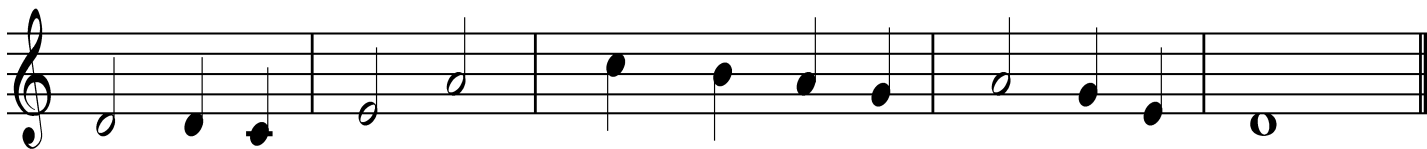
1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this that
God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll



caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my
is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Words: American folk hymn, ca. 1835. Music: *Wondrous Love*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835; alt. acc. Carlton R. Young, (b.1926).

Please stand as you are most comfortable

The Gospel

John 12:20-33

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

All are seated

The Sermon

The Rev. Stephanie E. Parker

Please stand as you are most comfortable

The Affirmation of Faith

The New Zealand Prayer Book, page 481

You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.

You are our God. We worship you.

Please stand as you are most comfortable

Prayers of the People

Leader In peace, we pray to God.

Silence

Leader Deepen our gratitude for all you have given us:
the beauty of creation, love given and received,
and the sacred calling to share your grace with
a hurting world

Silence

Leader Grant us a lively hope in your mercy and deliver
us from weariness in our struggles, from
despondency in failure, and from an
overburdened sense of unworthiness.

Silence

Leader Save us from all unwise haste, from the impatient
retort of irritation and the taunt of sarcasm, and
from all the idle words that hurt.

Silence

Leader Lead us away from strife, partisanship, and division, from
magnifying our certainties to condemn all differences,
and from building our systems to exclude all challenges.

Silence

Leader Inspire those who hold authority and influence in the nations
with your vision for a world made new and give them the
wisdom and hearts of servants to work for the common
good and dignity of people.

Silence

Leader Give to the leaders of your Church, the faithfulness of learners
and the courage of believers and rescue us from the easy
arrogance that seeks wisdom in our own opinions and
salvation through our own efforts

Silence

Leader Comfort with your healing grace all those whose suffering in
body and spirit is clear to us and all those suffering is hidden; especially those
suffering from cognitive decline. I invite your additional prayers at this time
either silently or aloud.

Silence

Leader We pray for all who have died.
Let Light perpetual shine upon them.

Silence

Presider O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people;
in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion
upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious,
O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and
Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

Presider The Peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Offertory

Offertory Anthem

When I survey the Wondrous Cross

Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)

The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand as you are able
59

EOW, Eucharistic Prayer 1, pgs. 57-

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 truly right, and good and joyful,
 to give you thanks, all-holy God,
 source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

**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 is the highest.**

Now is the time to stand or kneel as you prefer

Presider *continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and 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."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**ALL Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ’s Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, 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 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

O Lamb of God

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

The Invitation to Communion

Presider: 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 will now have three ways to receive communion:

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

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

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

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

There is no intinction by multiple individuals from the chalice.

Gluten free wafers available upon request.

COMMUNION MUSIC

By Gracious Powers So Wonderfully Sheltered

Dietrich Bonhoeffer(1906-1945)

Post Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

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

Please stand or kneel as you are comfortable.

Presider: Open your hearts to God.

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy
and grant those whom you have nourished by your Word
and Sacraments may bring forth compassion and forgiveness
worthy of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn #474

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross where the young
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were an

Prince of Glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 cross of Christ, my God: all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
 of - fering far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Rockingham, from *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, ca. 1970; harm. Edward Miller (1731-1807).

Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
 People Thanks be to God!

Postlude

St. Paddy's Jig

trad. Irish

PRAYER LIST

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

Short-term

Dick Sloop, Paul Parker

Long-term

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

Armed Forces

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

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





BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY

March 19—Gerry Peabody

March 21—Kathie Smith

March 21—Jeff Beard

March 21—Jeanne LaMay

March 22—Alison Collins

March 22—Kent Wansley

March 23—Sherry Griffith

March 23—Johnny Johnson

No Anniversaries



Serving Today

Altar Guild: Mary Southwell, Mike Southwell

Reader: Edward Southwell

Acolytes: Edward Southwell, Matthew Minick

Usher: Bob Houghton



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

St. Paul's Vestry

2024/2025

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

2025/2026

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

2026/2027

Tana Myers
Scott Jessee

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