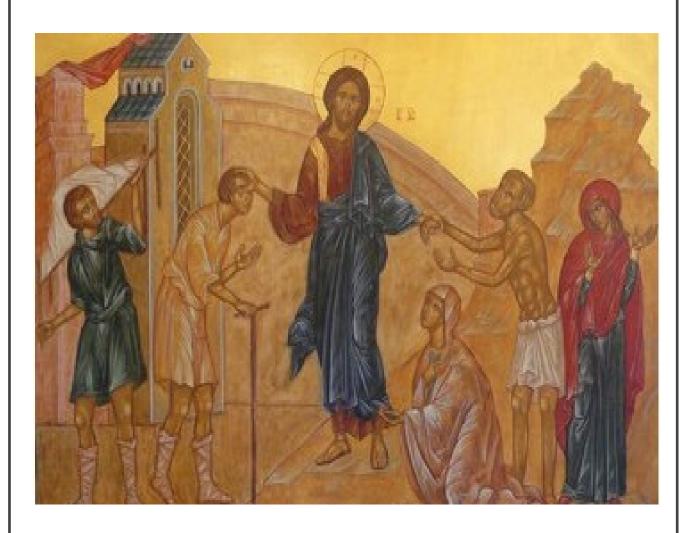
SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 22, 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 <u>office@stpaulwilkesboro.org</u> 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

Intrada and Chorale

Broughton

Welcome and Announcements

Processional Hymn #372 Praise to the Living God!



Words: Medieval Jewish liturgy; tr. Max Landsberg (1845-1928) and Newton M. Mann (1836-1926). Music: *Leoni*, Hebrew melody; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1985, alt.

Opening Acclamation

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

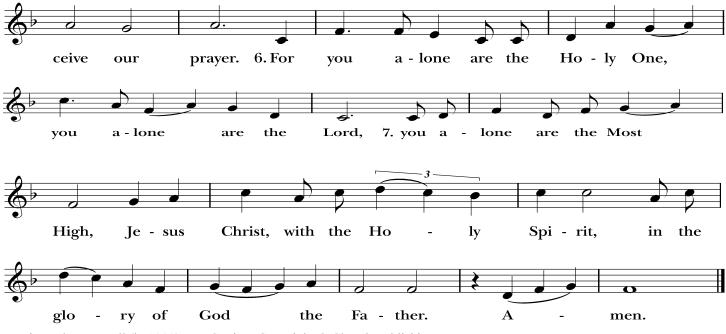
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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.

Gloria S-280





Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your call to follow you, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; 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

1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." [Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you."] He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

The Response Psalm 42

Quemadmodum

As the deer longs for the water-brooks, * so longs my soul for you, O God.

My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God; * when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

My tears have been my food day and night, *
while all day long they say to me,
"Where now is your God?"

I pour out my soul when I think on these things: *

how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,

With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, * among those who keep holy-day.

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? * and why are you so disquieted within me?

Put your trust in God; *

for I will yet give thanks to him, who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

My soul is heavy within me; *

therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan, and from the peak of Mizar among the heights of Hermon.

One deep calls to another in the noise of your cataracts; * all your rapids and floods have gone over me.

The LORD grants his loving-kindness in the daytime; * in the night season his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

I will say to the God of my strength,
"Why have you forgotten me? *
and why do I go so heavily while the enemy oppresses me?"

While my bones are being broken, *
my enemies mock me to my face;

All day long they mock me *

and say to me, "Where now is your God?"

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? * and why are you so disquieted within me?

Put your trust in God; *

for I will yet give thanks to him, who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

Second Reading

Galatians 3:23-29

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

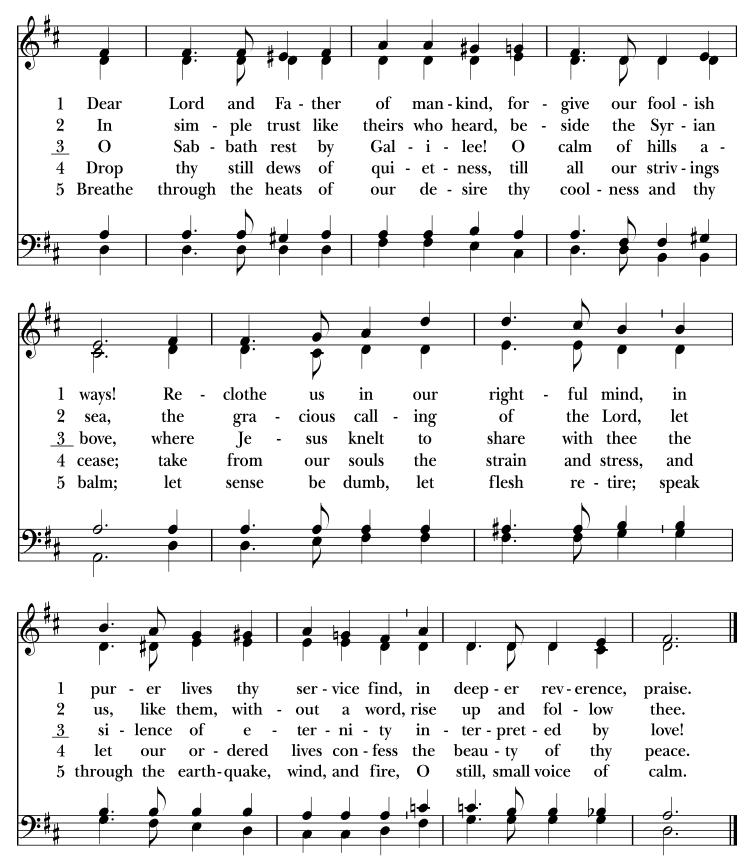
Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are most comfortable

Sequence Hymn #652 Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

(verses 1-3, 5)



Words: John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892), alt. Music: Rest, Frederick Charles Maker (1844-1927.

Please stand as you are most comfortable

The Gospel Luke 8:26-39

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus and his disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me" -- for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

All are seated

A time of silence following the sermon.

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

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 our hope as a people of God, this community of faith, and our lives together that we may always rejoice in the power of your love.

Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.

Presider: Gracious God, with whom Jesus taught us to live intimately, by the inner workings of your Spirit, help us to embrace your truth and deepen our communion with you, give us courage to more and more be signs of your enduring love. This we pray through Christ, who lives and works with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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

My Great Reward K. Lee Scott

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 right-eous 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.

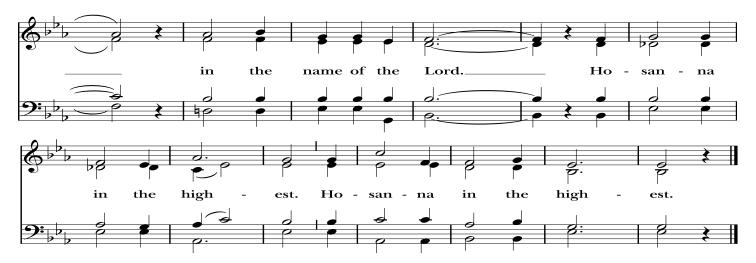
By his love, he reconciled us.

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 (Sanctus) S 130





Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Prayer C invites remaining standing

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 the season of Pentecost, we will pray in "different tongues".

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

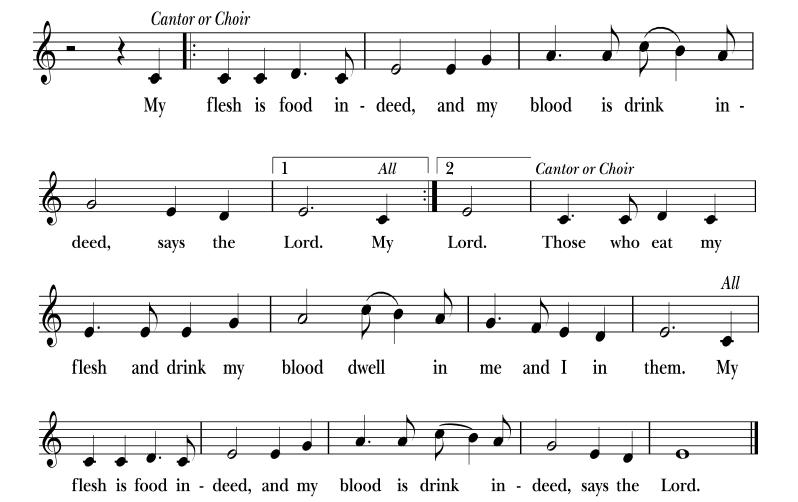
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

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 Anthem S-169 (My Flesh is Food Indeed)



Music: Ray W. Urwin (b. 1950). Copyright © 1984 by Ray W. Urwin. Used by permission.

The Invitation to Communion

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God...

You will now have three ways to receive communion:

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.

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

Meditation on "St. Columba"

Broughton

Post Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray,

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

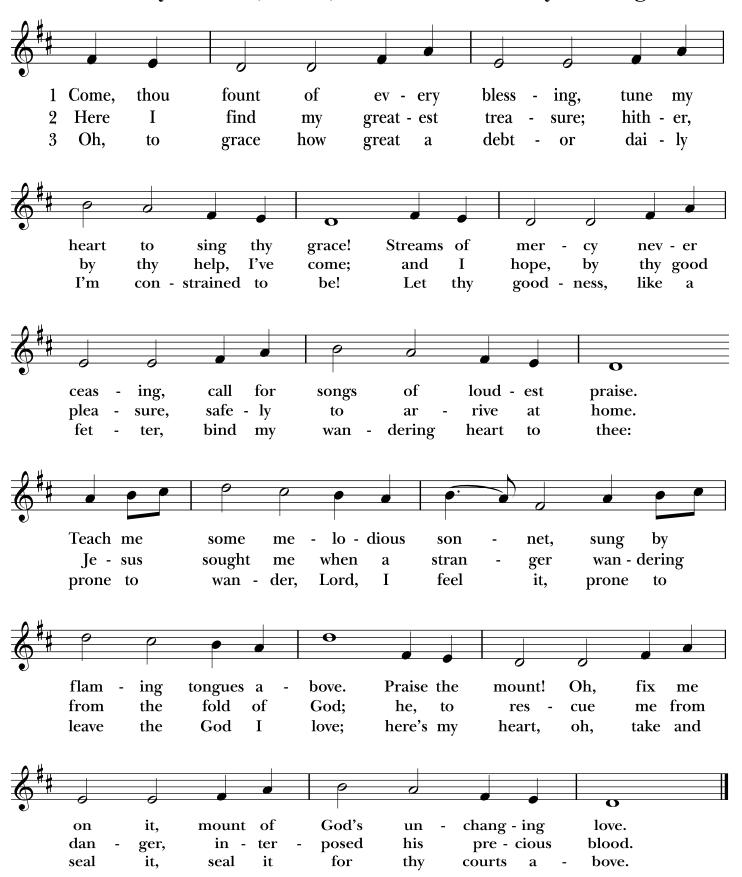
The Blessing

Go out into the world, and bring forth new life.

Dream dreams, pursue visions and speak of God's goodness to all who will hear.

And may the God who breathed life into creation be your delight. May Jesus Christ give hope to your dreaming, and may the Holy Spirit, our Advocate and supporter set your hearts ablaze with a passion for mercy and justice. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn #686, Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt. Music: *Nettleton*, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music*, *Part II*, 1813; harm. Gerre Hancock (b. 1934).

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

Rejoice, the Lord is King

arr. Smith



Altar Flowers Given Today by Jim Gray to the Glory of God, and in memory of Mary Iva Gray.

PRAYER LIST

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

Short-term

Patrick Zander, Thomas Reed, Richard Canter, Tracee Smith

Long-term

Jason Williams, Shane Jenkins, Erwin McKenzie, Michael Gamboa, Da'Shon Horton, Kaye Hall, Marianne Beamon, Cathy Welch, Bev Cook, Chris Privette, Dennis Johnson, Jacque Quick, Craig Freas, Mary Iva Gray, Don Dorsten, Aletha Johnson, Hannah Everson, 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.





June 22nd—Bert Hall

June 22nd—Heather Murphy

June 22nd—Richard Searcy

June 27th—David McNeill

June 23rd—Diane & Gerry Peabody

June 27th—Bailey & Julie Koch



^{**}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.**

Serving Today

Altar Guild: Mike Southwell, Mary Southwell

Reader: Tana Myers

Acolytes: Mark Williams, Keyonii Staley

Usher: Ryan Minick

Bread Bakers: Mark Williams & Ben Staley

Vestry Lock-Up for June: Tana Myers



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

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