

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026

8:45 & 11:00am



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS

Est. 1836 | Flat Rock, North Carolina

Mission Statement

To know and love God as He is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, to bring others to His saving love, and to serve the world in His name.

Welcome to St. John in the Wilderness

We welcome you warmly to St. John in the Wilderness and invite you to share in our songs, prayers, and eucharistic feast. If you do not have a church family at this time, then we invite you to join in this fellowship of faith as we share life together as the Body of Christ. See the note to our visitors on the back inside cover for more information about receiving Communion and joining the church.

Reminders for Worship

- Children of all ages are most welcome in worship, and during the service they may enjoy the activity bags, which are in the Tower Entrance. Nursery care is available for children from infancy to pre-K across Rutledge Drive in our Parish House Education Building from 8:30am to 12:30pm on Sundays. Please use the crosswalk to get there!
- Formation is available for children, youth, and adults most Sundays from 10:10 to 10:45am in our Parish House complex across Rutledge Drive.
- Please participate in the service by singing and praying with us. At the time of the Peace, please take a few moments to leave your pew and greet others in the name of our Lord.
- A restroom is available near the front of the church and can be accessed through an exterior door. Please see an usher for directions.
- You will find hand sanitizer in the pews and with the ushers. Please use it after the Peace and before receiving Communion.

Prayer List: Just a reminder that the Sunday prayer list will be updated at the end of the quarter. On Sunday, April 5, the list will be comprised of only the names submitted or updated in March. You can add or update a name on the prayer list at www.stjohnflatrock.org/prayer-list.

Upcoming Services & Gatherings

Lenten Learning Series: Marks of Mission, with the Rev. Dr. Timothy Ross Tuesdays in Lent, 5:00-6:30pm in the Wilderness Room

We invite you to a series of adult formation every Tuesday night in Lent with Pastor Tim Ross. The course will ask questions such as: *Who are we as a congregation? What do we stand for? What are we up to in our community? What are we supposed to do with our lives? What is our mission in life?* Please bring a finger food to share.

Stations of the Cross | Fridays in Lent, 12:00pm in the Church

This weekly devotional practice helps to ground us as we travel the path of reflection and repentance during the 40 days of Lent and draws us closer to our Lord. A soup and salad lunch will follow in the Wilderness Room. No RSVP necessary.

United Thank Offering (UTO) Continues Through March 22

Our UTO collection period runs through the last Sunday in Lent. These offerings go to support innovative mission and ministry around the world. Please pick up a Blue Box from one of the church entrances, fill it with coins as you count your blessings throughout this season, and bring it to service on March 22.

Holy Hike at Blue Wall Preserve Thursday, March 26, 11:00am (or 10:10am for Carpool)

Join Holy Hikers as they venture to Blue Wall Preserve near Landrum, SC to take on the Twin Ponds Trail. The easy-rated, 3.1 mile “lollipop loop” follows an old logging road around two ponds. Visit stjohnflatrock.org/upcoming-hike for more details, and email Cynthia at holyhikes@stjohnflatrock.org to register.

Reception to Welcome Rev. Kathy Hulin Tuesday, March 24, 3:30-5:00pm in the Parish Hall

Join us in the Parish Hall on Mother Kathy’s first day to welcome her to St. John in the Wilderness! Come meet our new Associate Rector over a delicious spread of snacks and beverages. No RSVP necessary. We hope to see you there.

Holy Week at St. John in the Wilderness

Join us as we live the story of Holy Week from waving palms to the empty tomb. Visit stjohnflatrock.org/holy-week or scan the QR code to the right to see all our Holy Week services and events.



Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:45 & 11:00am

PRELUDE: Simple Gifts

arr. John Barr

Welcome & Announcements

ENTRANCE HYMN: #7 Christ, whose glory fills the skies

Ratisbon

THE WORD OF GOD

Acclamation & Response

BCP p. 323

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.
People **His mercy endureth for ever.**

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

KYRIE ELEISON (Lord, Have Mercy)

The Hymnal 1982, #S-91

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

The Celebrant says to the people

	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And with thy spirit.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

First Lesson: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any

of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN: #645 The King of love my shepherd is (Psalm 23)

St. Columba

Second Lesson: Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

As the music begins, all stand for the gradual hymn and reorient themselves to the Gospel of our Lord as it is processed into the congregation.

GRADUAL HYMN: #490 I want to walk as a child of the light

Houston

All remain standing as the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

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

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

The Gospel: John 9:1-41

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to

become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Patty Mouer

After the sermon, there is a brief moment of silence. When the Celebrant rises, the congregation stands.

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

**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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.**

The Prayers of the People

Form VI, BCP p. 392

The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

People **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

Leader For this community, the nation, and the world;

People **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Leader For the just and proper use of your creation;

People **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

Leader For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

Leader For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

Leader For Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; José, our Bishop;
and for all bishops and other ministers;

People **For all who serve God in his Church.**

Leader For the special needs and concerns of this congregation: for Jeff, Legare, Elijah,
Susan, Betsy, Tawana, Chuck, John, Nancy, Ginger, Robert, Dottie, Betty, Mason,
Mary, Sue, Dale, Mary, Deacon, Kristen, Katherine, Joan, and Julie. Are there
others?

The People may add their own petitions silently or aloud

Leader Hear us, Lord;
People **For your mercy is great.**

Leader We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The People may add their own thanksgivings silently or aloud

Leader We will exalt you, O God our King;
People **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

Leader We pray for all who have died, [*especially _____,*] that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

The People may add their own petitions silently or aloud

Leader Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
People **Who put their trust in you.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 330

The Deacon introduces the Confession with the following or the other introduction on page 330.

Deacon Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

The people stand or kneel. Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Minister may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying
Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.
1 John 2:1-2

The Peace

BCP p. 332

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord. The Celebrant then shares an offertory sentence.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

*The ushers pass the offering plates and present the gifts of the congregation at the Lord's table.
Online gifts may be made using the QR code to the right.*



OFFERTORY MUSIC:

8:45 All People that on Earth Do Dwell

Johann Pachelbel

11:00 Touch that Soothes and Heals

Gregg DeMay

arr. Thomas Keesecker

Text: Mary Louise Bringle

Touch that soothes and heals the hurting, hands that break a loaf of bread;
steps that walk beside the weary, bearing burdens in their stead:

Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit ones in need of care,
give the homeless warmth and shelter: Christ will find a welcome there.

"See my hands and feet," said Jesus, love arisen from the grave.

"Be my hands and feet," said Jesus, "live as ones I died to save."

Love and serve without distinction all earth's people, first and least.

Know within each act of kindness hope and wholeness are increased.

"See my hands and feet," said Jesus, love arisen from the grave.

"Be my hands and feet," said Jesus, "live as ones I died to save."

Hands that beckon little children, bind a wound, prepare a meal,
feet that rush to share good tidings, Christ arisen, still reveal.

"See my hands and feet," said Jesus, love arisen from the grave.

"Be my hands and feet," said Jesus, "live as ones I died to save."

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OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Doxology

Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer I, BCP p. 333

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and singing,

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

Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -

- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth

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

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death,

his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The following or some other suitable anthem may be said (8:45) or sung (11:00) here

Celebrant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

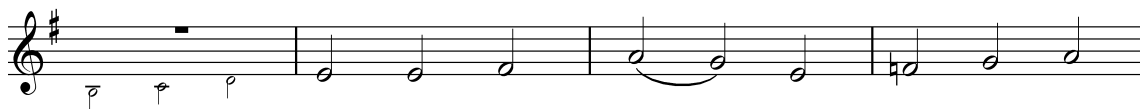
People **have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People **have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People **grant us thy peace.**



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -



way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -



on us. O Lamb of God, that



ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have



mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of

God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, grant us thy peace.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Celebrant and People

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ushers immediately begin releasing the congregation to share in the Eucharistic feast. A gluten-free option is available upon request. For further instructions about Holy Communion, see the note to our visitors on the back inside cover of the bulletin.

The choir often begins by singing a hymn while the congregation receives the Sacrament. Following the choir's hymn, please join in as we sing the Communion Hymn together.

COMMUNION MUSIC:

8:45 Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness Johannes Brahms

11:00 The Lord is My Shepherd Allen Pote

Text: Psalm 23, paraphrased by Allen Pote

The Lord is my shepherd. Nothing shall I want.
My shepherd makes me lie down in fields of green, leads me beside still waters.
The Lord is my shepherd, who restores my life. Leads me in the paths of righteousness
for the sake of the Lord's name.
And even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death; I will fear no evil,

for you are with me, your rod and staff will comfort me.
You prepare a table before me, in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
And in the house of my God I will live for ever.

COMMUNION HYMN: #671 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound

New Britain

Sending Out of Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant With whom will you share this communion?

Eucharistic Visitors respond with the names of those to whom they will go.

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we share one bread and one cup.**

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p. 339

After Communion, the Celebrant says
Kneel before the Lord.

The people stand or kneel for the Post-Communion Prayer.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives the blessing.

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL HYMN: #493 O for a thousand tongues to sing

Azmon

The Dismissal

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, may dismiss the people with these words

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Georg F. Kauffmann

The Prayers of the People is that part of our liturgy which offers intercessions and thanksgivings to God. **Worshippers, wherever they are in the church, are encouraged to offer aloud or silently their own such prayers during the appropriate part of the Prayers of the People.** As we pray, please remember those who are ill or with other needs: Jeff, Legare Head, Elijah Stephens, Susan Rex, Betsy Thagard, Tawana Gibbs, Chuck King, John and Nancy Taylor, Ginger Quarles, Robert Odean, Dottie Dalzell, Betty, Mason, Mary, Sue, Dale, Mary McCarty, Deacon Whitson, Kristen, Katherine Gee, Joan Odean, and Julie Morse.

The Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of my beautiful wife, Sandra, who is still in my heart and thoughts, *by Jim Thaxton*, and my husband, George Carr, Sr., and son, Joe Carr, *by Baynard Chamberlain*.

Eucharistic Visitors share the Body and Blood of Christ with those who receive care from our Visitor Ministry. We thank God for the ministry of Clint Adams, Art Mack, Judy Petersen, Anita Reid, Stan Rogan, and Bill Taylor.

To Our Visitors: We welcome you with all our hearts! You are also invited to come forward at the time of Communion to receive the Sacrament or a blessing. All baptized Christians are encouraged to receive Communion, including infants and children. To receive Communion, simply come forward to kneel at the altar if you are able. Put one hand in the palm of the other and the Celebrant will share the Body of Christ with you. You may then intinct or drink from the Chalice. A gluten-free option is available upon request. If you are not baptized, please come forward and kneel at the altar while crossing your arms over your chest to receive a special blessing, and we invite you to talk to the priest at any time about entering discernment for being baptized. Won't you join with Christ and his Church on this journey of faith?

If you do not have a church home at this time, then we hope you will make St. John in the Wilderness your church family. We find that through sharing life together as the Body of Christ, we are made whole and renewed daily. Talk to an usher or member of the clergy about joining this parish, or you are welcome to simply fill out a card in your pew and put it in the offering plate. We welcome you!

THANK YOU FOR SERVING IN WORSHIP

	Fourth Sunday in Lent (Rose Sunday) March 15		Fifth Sunday in Lent March 22	
	8:45am	11:00am	8:45am	11:00am
Lay Readers/ Eucharistic Ministers	Sandra Jeffery John Barker	Bill Taylor Candace Lewis	Bob Inglis Mary Anne Inglis	Mark Delk Lori Griswold
Acolytes	Laura Teel	Stan Rogan	Jasmine Pharr	Anita Reid
Ushers	Stu Holcombe Debby Staton	John Knapp Ned Curtis	Marlin Sanders George Grzenda	Hilton Swing Ned Curtis
Greeters	Lynne Miller Judy Petersen	Carmen Curtis Ned Curtis	Brenda Hillyer Margaret Barker	Jann Cooper Jim Cooper
Cart Drivers	Jim Olson	Sandy Skelton	Kathryn Whitten	Chris Kanipe
Videography (Service)	E. Wiescholak	N/A	N/A	Tom Griswold
Videography (Formation)	Jennifer Shelton		BJ McKee	
Altar Guild	Cathryn Harrell BJ McKee	Diane Skelton Jim Cooper <i>(Brass)</i>	Sandra Jeffery Lynne Miller	Sara Kester Laurie Morris Michael Jeffery <i>(Brass)</i>
Flower Guild			Lenten Branches	
Opening Gatekeeper	David Dethero		David Dethero	
Closing Gatekeeper	Mark Delk		Mark Delk	



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS

Church: 1895 Greenville Highway | Office: 1905 Greenville Highway

Mailing: PO Box 185, Flat Rock, NC 28731

828-693-9783 | www.stjohnflatrock.org

In the case of a pastoral emergency, call the Parish Office and dial 5.

Worship Services: 8:45 & 11:00am | Office Hours: 9:00am-4:00pm M-F

Sunday School for Adults, Youth, and Children: 10:00am

Holy Eucharist & Healing Service: Wednesdays 10:30am in the Wilderness Room

The Rt. Rev. José McLoughlin, Bishop

The Rev. Josh Stephens, Rector: rector@stjohnflatrock.org

Ed Tompkins, Director of Music & Organist: music@stjohnflatrock.org

Mims Yeargin, Director of Parish Communication & Administration: officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org

Stacy Knapp, Financial Administrator: finance@stjohnflatrock.org

Missy Izard, Director of Christian Education: missy@stjohnflatrock.org

Kevin Hunt, Sexton: sexton@stjohnflatrock.org

VESTRY MEMBERS

Jill Owen, *Senior Warden (2026)*
Jim Cooper, *Junior Warden (2027)*

2026

Jon Fitzpatrick
Sandy Skelton

2027

Kitty Olson
Catherine Popp
Steve Sittnick

2028

Liz Carson
Mark Delk
Worth Gordon
Lynne Miller

PARISH OFFICERS

Marlin Sanders &
Bill Williams, *Treasurers*

Kim Sanders, *Clerk*

STANDING COMMITTEES

Appointments: Carol Rector

Buildings and Grounds Committee: Jerry Tanner

By Laws, Canons & Insurance: Jim Olson

Christian Formation: Missy Izard

Communications & Publicity: Joey Popp

Finance: Gary German

Historic Churchyard Committee: Sandy Rex

New Member Ministry: Brenda Hillyer & Judy Petersen

Outreach: Jennifer Shelton

Personnel: Margaret Barker

Stewardship: Jim and Jann Cooper

OTHER COMMITTEES AND MINISTRIES

Acolytes: Laura Teel

Altar Guild: Cathryn Harrell, Laurie Morris

Chefs of St. John: Jim Vint

Churchyard Trustees: Pete Petersen

Docents: Polly Morrice & Scott Bell

Endowment Trustees: Mike Teel

Episcopal Church Women: Jan Tanner

Flower Guild: Patrice German

Flower Memorials: Gaston Motes

Funeral Reception Ministry: Brenda Hillyer

Garden Guild: Jerry Tanner

Gatekeepers: BJ McKee

Golf Cart Ministry: Jill Owen

Good News Gardeners: Cathy & David Burge

Greeters: Worth Gordon & Carmen Curtis

Heritage, Archives & Gift Committee: John Barker

Holy Hikes-WNC: Cynthia Easterling

Lay Readers: Mark Delk

Meal Ministry: Catherine Popp

Needle Work Ministry: Judy Petersen

Sustainability: Elizabeth Christenbury

Ushers: Clint Adams & Bettie Orr

Visitor Ministry: Clint Adams

Wedding Coordinator: Elaine Howe