

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

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 our worship services. 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.
- 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 6, the list will be comprised of only the names submitted or updated in March.

Journey through Lent

View all of our Lenten offerings at www.stjohnflatrock.org/lenten-journey.

Available Now: “A Commonplace Lent” Devotional Guides

Three ways to engage:

1. Pick up a booklet from the church entrances or Parish Office.
2. Sign up to get daily Lenten devotions through your email at www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent.
3. View the Devotional Guide online at www.stjohnflatrock.org/lenten-journey.

Lenten Learning Series: What Is Mysticism and Why It Matters Tuesdays in Lent, Beginning March 11 | 5:00pm in the Wilderness Room *(Bring a finger food to share!)*

As we journey towards the cross, Bishop Porter Taylor invites us to explore five notable mystics of centuries past, each of whom encountered God in unique and powerful ways. No prior reading or sign up is required. Fellowship with finger foods begins at 5:00pm (bring something to share!), and the class starts promptly at 5:30pm. **Children’s formation will run concurrently—please RSVP for your children by emailing Missy Izard (missy@stjohnflatrock.org).** Come and explore the mystical dimensions of faith this Lent!

Stations of the Cross Fridays in Lent, Beginning March 7 | 12:00pm in the Church

The object of the Stations is to help us make a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer through meditating on the chief scenes of Christ’s suffering and death. They are a very special way to observe a holy Lent. The service lasts approximately 30 minutes, and soup and salad lunch will follow in the Wilderness Room. No RSVP necessary.

Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:45 & 11:00am

PRELUDE: The Glory of These Forty Days

Johann Pachelbel

Welcome & Announcements

ENTRANCE HYMN: No. 574 Before thy throne, O God, we kneel

St. Petersburg

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, No. S-88





The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People

And with thy spirit.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

First Lesson: Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of

Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.”

But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'” God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.”

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 63:1-8

Deus, Deus meus

The Psalm is read responsively by whole verse at 8:45 and sung in unison at 11:00. The congregation at 11:00 will remain seated as it sings the Psalm.

James Frazier
(b. 1947)



Chant setting, #408 from The Hymnal 1982, Service Music — Music: James Frazier (b. 1947). Copyright © 1978 James Frazier.

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I SEEK YOU; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no WATER.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy PLACE, *
that I might behold your power and your GLORY.**
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itSELF; *
my lips shall give you PRAISE.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I LIVE *
and lift up my hands in your NAME.**
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and FATNESS, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful LIPS,
- 6 When I remember you upon my BED, *
and meditate on you in the night WATCHES.**
- 7 For you have been my HELPER, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will reJOICE.
- 8 My soul clings to YOU; *
your right hand holds me FAST.
Glory be to the Father, and to the SON,*
and to the Holy GHOST:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever SHALL BE,*
world without end. aMEN.**

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be

tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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: No. 143 The glory of these forty days

Erhalt uns, Herr

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

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

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

The Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Stephen Askew

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

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.
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 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 Tawana, Mary, Bob, Dottie, Betsy, Margaret, Chuck, Harriet, Louise, Ann, Michael, Patty, John, Parker, Patsy, Marilyn, Daniel, Russ, Kirsten, Janet, Susan, Wayne and Ann, Harry, Bennett, Patty, Amanda, Carol, Peggy, Jan, Miguel, Jeff, Roger, Carl, Katherine, and Anita. 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 Hariette Adams Graham, 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.

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

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

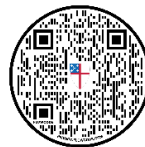
People **And with thy spirit.**

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 Chorale Prelude on *Toplady*

Peter Pindar Stearns

11:00 Psalm 121

John Ness Beck

I will lift up mine eyes to the hills, from whence cometh my help.

My help cometh from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: He that keepeth thee will not slumber.

Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord shall shade thy right hand.

The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from evil: He shall preserve thy soul.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even forevermore.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow

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.

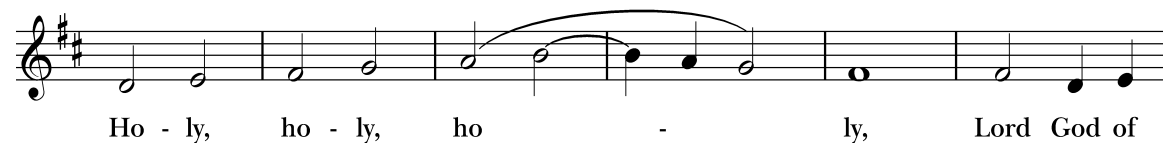
People **It is meet and right so to do.**

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,



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

BCP p. 337

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.**

The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The fourth staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics are: Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

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 HYMN: No. 685 Rock of ages, cleft for me

Toplady

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 Deacon 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 people remain standing or kneeling, and the Celebrant says

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

DISMISSAL HYMN: No. 344 Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing

Sicilian Mariners

The Dismissal

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

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: Pasticcio

Jean Langlais

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: Tawana Gibbs, Mary McCarty, Bob Sundeen, Dottie Dalzell, Betsy Thagard, Margaret Barker, Chuck King, Harriet Huiet, Louise, Ann Stringfield, Michael Jeffery, Patty Vint, John Taylor, Parker Mattern, Patsy Boehmer, Marilyn Jones, Daniel Mieras, Russ Adam, Kirsten Shepherd, Janet Thompson, Keyla Hensdill, Susan Rex, Wayne and Ann Kanipe, Harry Van Bergen, Bennett Stroman, Patty, Amanda Swan, Carol Black, Peggy Rex, Jan, Miguel Hernandez, Jeff, Roger Gross, Carl Sessions Stepp, and Katherine.

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, Stephen Askew, Patricia Tanzer Askew, E.R. Haire, Art Mack, 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				
	Third Sunday in Lent March 23		Fourth Sunday in Lent March 30	
	8:45am	11:00am	8:45am	11:00am
Lay Readers	Mark Delk	Mark Delk	Sandra Jeffery	Bill Taylor
Acolytes	Jasmine Pharr	Anita Reid Emily Ann Caldwell Sofia Ridgeway	Danielle Pharr	Stan Rogan
Ushers	Jerry Tanner Stu Holcombe	Hilton Swing Ned Curtis	George Grzenda Debby Staton	Bettie Orr D. Christenbury
Greeters	Brenda Hillyer Lois Karcher	Jann & Jim Cooper	Lynne Miller Worth Gordon	Becky & Scott Petersen
Cart Drivers	Mark Owen	Chris Kanipe	Marlin Sanders	Scott Bell
Videography (Service)	N/A	Tom Griswold	BJ McKee	N/A
Videography (Formation)	BJ McKee		Rosanna Couture	
Altar Guild	Sandra Jeffery Lynne Miller Michael Jeffery (Brass)	Anne Hobbs Lisa Wills	Brenda Hillyer Virginia Rehn (Sat.) Rick Rehn (Brass)	Laurie Morris Susan Gibbs
Flower Guild	Lenten Branches		Jan Tanner	
Opening Gatekeeper	David Dethero		David Dethero	
Closing Gatekeeper	Jerry Holt		Jerry Holt	



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS

PO Box 185, 1905 Greenville Highway, 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

The Rev. Deacon Sandy Rex, Deacon: cwrexiii@rmimidwest.com

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

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

Stacy Knapp, Finance & Administration: finance@stjohnflatrock.org

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

Kevin Hunt, Sexton: sexton@stjohnflatrock.org

VESTRY MEMBERS

Jerry Holt, *Senior Warden*

Jim Gibbs, *Junior Warden*

2025

Kim Sanders

Patrice German

Laura Teel

2026

Jill Owen

Jon Fitzpatrick

Sandy Skelton

2027

Jim Cooper

Kitty Olson

Catherine Popp

Steve Sittnick

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: Jerry Holt

OTHER COMMITTEES AND MINISTRIES

Acolytes: Betsy Tibbs

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: Elizabeth Christenbury, Cava Sittnick

Flower Guild: Patrice German

Flower Memorials: Gaston Motes

Funeral Reception Ministry: Brenda Hillyer

Gatekeepers:

Golf Cart Ministry: Jill Owen

Good News Gardeners:

Greeters: Betsy Tibbs

Heritage, Archives & Gift Committee: John Barker

Holy Hikes-WNC: Cynthia Easterling

Lay Readers: Mark Delk

Meal Ministry: Catherine Popp

Needle Work Ministry: Judy Petersen

Newsletter Editor: Mims Yeargin

Sustainability: Elizabeth Christenbury

Ushers: Clint Adams, Bettie Orr

Visitor Ministry: The Revs. Patricia Tanzer Askew and Stephen Askew

Wedding Coordinator: Elaine Howe