

# The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 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](http://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.

**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](http://stjohnflatrock.org/upcoming-hike) for more details, and email Cynthia at [holyhikes@stjohnflatrock.org](mailto: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](http://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:** Wondrous Love

arr. Dale Wood

**Welcome & Announcements**

**ENTRANCE HYMN:** #495 Hail, thou once despised Jesus!

*In Babilone*

## THE WORD OF GOD

**Acclamation & Response**

BCP p. 323

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

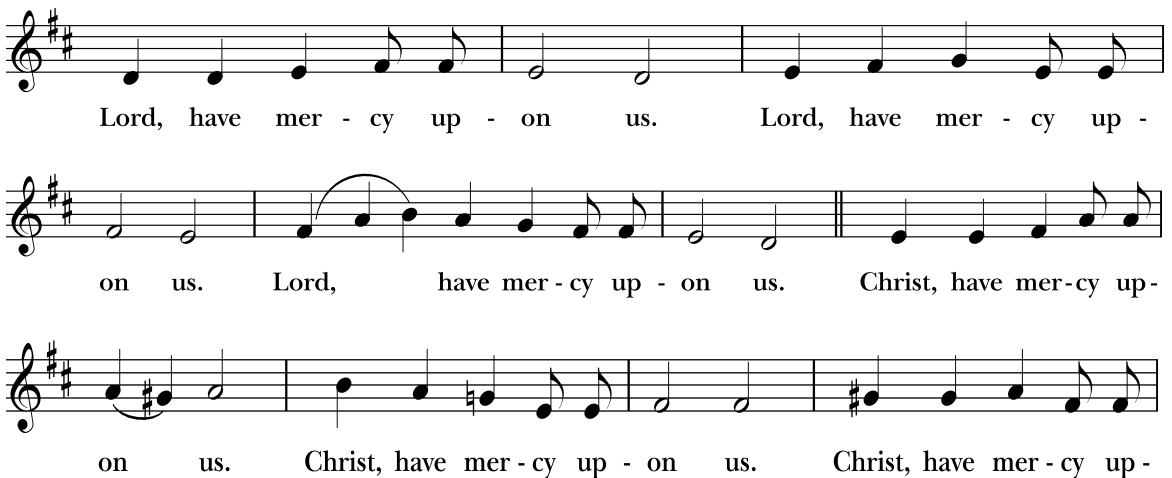
*The Celebrant says*

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>    | <b>And with thy spirit.</b> |
| <i>Celebrant</i> | Let us pray.                |

## The Collect of the Day

O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men: Grant unto thy people that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

## First Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act,” says the Lord.

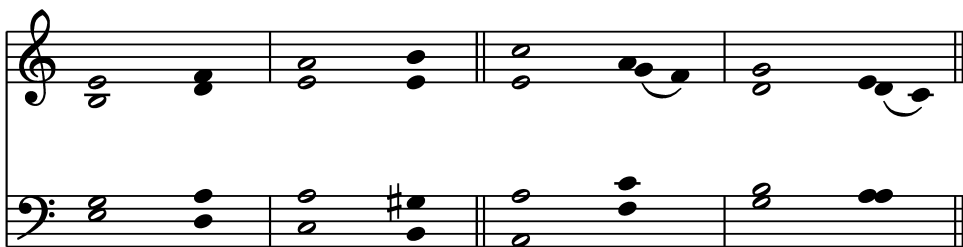
The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 130

*De profundis*

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



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

1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my VOICE; \*  
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

2 **If you, Lord, were to note what is done aMISS, \***  
**O Lord, who could STAND?**

3 For there is forgiveness with YOU; \*  
therefore you shall be FEARED.

4 **I wait for the Lord; my soul WAITS FOR HIM; \***  
**in his word is my HOPE.**

5 My soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen for the MORNING, \*  
more than watchmen for the MORNING.

6 **O Israel, wait for the LORD, \***  
**for with the Lord there is MERCY;**

*Sing second half of chant for verse 7.*

7 With him there is plenteous redemption, \*  
and he shall redeem Israel from all their SINS.

**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: Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in 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:** #455 O love of God, how strong and true

*Dunedin*

*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 11:1-45

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead.

For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

*People*      The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

*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 Leader and People pray responsively*

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

*People* For all people in their daily life and work;  
**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, Julie, and EJ. 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 Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus arr. Wayne L. Wold

11:00 I Want Jesus to Walk with Me arr. Lloyd Larson

I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me;  
all along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.  
In my trials, Lord, walk with me; in my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
when my heart is almost breaking, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.  
When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me; when I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me;  
when my head is bowed in sorrow, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

*Text: African American spiritual*

## The Presentation of United Thank Offerings

*The ushers or members of the ECW come forward with the UTO boxes and set them on the altar.*

*Celebrant* You have come bearing gifts.

*People* **We present to God this day these United Thank Offerings.**

*Celebrant* Who gives these offerings?

*People* **The people of St. John in the Wilderness!**

*Celebrant* What are they for?

*People* **They are for the work of the Church: to bring good news to the poor,  
release to the captive, recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed  
go free, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.**

*The Celebrant continues*

With these gifts that you are giving to Christ's Church, we will proclaim that the Kingdom of God is at hand as we walk in love, generosity, gratitude, and reciprocity.

Let us pray.

*People and Celebrant*

UTO Prayer

**Almighty God, I give you praise, for blessing me in many ways.**

**Create in me a grateful heart, and with these gifts, a blessing start. Amen.**

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Doxology

Old 100<sup>th</sup>

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low; praise him a-bove ye heav' nly host; praise Fa-ther, Son and Ho-ly Ghost. A - men.

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.

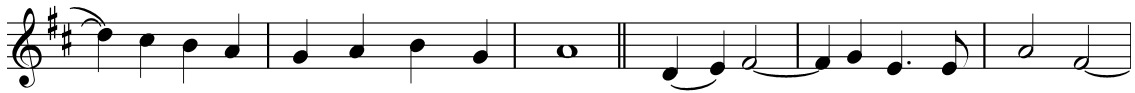
*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.*

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*

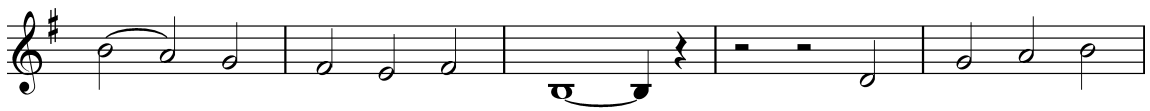
*Celebrant* O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
*People* **have mercy upon us.**

*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 Jesus, Still Lead On

arr. Paul Manz

11:00 Wondrous Love

Eric Thiman

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?  
When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
when I was sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down  
beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown  
for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.  
To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;  
to God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
who is the great I AM, while millions join the theme,  
I will sing, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing.

*Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.*

**COMMUNION HYMN: #309** O Food to pilgrims given

*O Welt, ich muss dich lassen*

### **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.**

*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:** #457 Thou art the Way, to thee alone

*St. James*

### **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:** Out of the Depths I Cry to Thee

Max Drischner





**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, Julie Morse, and EJ Albergotti.

**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

|   | Fifth Sunday in Lent<br>March 22  |   | Palm Sunday<br>March 29   |   |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|
|   | 8:45am                            | 11:00am   | 8:45am  | 11:00am   |
| <b>Lay Readers/<br/>Eucharistic Ministers</b> | Bob Inglis<br>Mary Anne Inglis    | Mark Delk<br>Lori Griswold  | D. Brombacher<br>Lori Griswold<br>Stan Rogan<br>Chad Stephens<br>Will Rodriguez | D. Brombacher<br>Lori Griswold<br>Stan Rogan<br>Chad Stephens<br>Will Rodriguez |
| <b>Acolytes</b>                               | Jasmine Pharr                     | Anita Reid  | Laura Teel  | Cora Fitzpatrick<br>Arlo Stephens<br>Emily Ann Caldwell                         |
| <b>Ushers</b>                                 | Marlin Sanders<br>George Grzenda  | Hilton Swing<br>Ned Curtis  | Debby Staton<br>Clint Adams   | Bettie Orr<br>S. Gulbrandsen  |
| <b>Greeters</b>                               | Brenda Hillyer<br>Margaret Barker | Jann Cooper<br>Jim Cooper   | Worth Gordon<br>Meg Holt  | Jo Stahle<br>Anne Vogler  |
| <b>Cart Drivers</b>                           | Kathryn Whitten                   | Chris Kanipe  | Jill Owen   | Bob Staples   |
| <b>Videography</b> ( <i>Service</i> )         | N/A                               | Tom Griswold  | N/A   | BJ McKee  |
| <b>Videography</b> ( <i>Formation</i> )       | BJ McKee                          |   | N/A   |   |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>                            | Sandra Jeffery<br>Lynne Miller    | Sara Kester<br>Laurie Morris<br>Michael Jeffery<br><i>(Brass)</i> | Brenda Hillyer<br>Virginia Rehn <i>(Sat.)</i><br>Rick Rehn <i>(Brass)</i>       | Diane Skelton<br>Anne Hobbs   |
| <b>Flower Guild</b>                           | Lenten Branches                   |   |   |   |
| <b>Opening Gatekeeper</b>                     | David Dethero                     |   | David Dethero   |   |
| <b>Closing Gatekeeper</b>                     | 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](http://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](mailto:rector@stjohnflatrock.org)

**Ed Tompkins**, Director of Music & Organist: [music@stjohnflatrock.org](mailto:music@stjohnflatrock.org)

**Mims Yeargin**, Director of Parish Communication & Administration: [officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org](mailto:officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org)

**Stacy Knapp**, Financial Administrator: [finance@stjohnflatrock.org](mailto:finance@stjohnflatrock.org)

**Missy Izard**, Director of Christian Education: [missy@stjohnflatrock.org](mailto:missy@stjohnflatrock.org)

**Kevin Hunt**, Sexton: [sexton@stjohnflatrock.org](mailto: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