

# The Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

8:45 & 11:15am



## 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. 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.

**Advent Lessons & Carols:** Join us next Sunday, December 14, at 8:45 or 11:00am for our traditional services of Advent Lessons & Carols, a melding of seasonal music and scripture as we engage in this season of holy waiting.

**Spray Assembly:** Also next Sunday, December 14, we will gather in the Parish Hall between the services to create beautiful sprays of greenery to honor those who were enslaved who are laid to rest in the Historic Black Burial Ground in our churchyard. All are welcome to take part in this special tradition. Please bring greenery if you can!

**Prayer List:** Just a reminder that the Sunday prayer list will be updated at the end of the quarter. On Sunday, January 4, the list will be comprised of only the names submitted or updated in December. To add or update a name to the prayer list, visit [stjohnflatrock.org/prayer-list](http://stjohnflatrock.org/prayer-list).

# Holy Eucharist, Rite I

8:45 & 11:15am

**PRELUDE:** Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

Malcolm Archer

**Welcome and Announcements**

**ENTRANCE HYMN:** No. 68 Rejoice! rejoice, believers

*Llangloffan*

## 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 to the people*

Confession of Sin, BCP p. 79

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*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*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*All stand*

## KYRIE

Hymnal 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.

*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

Merciful God, who didst send thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**First Lesson:** Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.  
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.  
On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of  
him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The Psalm is read responsively by whole verse at the 8:45 service. At the 11:00 service, the congregation chants the Psalm in unison.*

**Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19**

*Deus, judicum*



*Chant setting, #414 from The Hymnal 1982, Service Music*

Music: Robert Knox Kennedy (b. 1945). Copyright © 1979 Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 1 Give the King your justice, o GOD, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's SON;
- 2 **That he may rule your people RIGHTEOUSLY \***  
**and the poor with JUSTICE;**
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the PEOPLE, \*  
and the little hills bring RIGHTEOUSNESS.
- 4 **He shall defend the needy among the PEOPLE; \***  
**he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.
- 6 **He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \***  
**like showers that water the earth.**
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 **Blessed be the Lord God, the God of ISRAEL, \***  
**who alone does wondrous deeds!**
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! \*  
and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. amen.
- Glory 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.**

*Sing second half of chant for verse 19*

## Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,  
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,  
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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. 59 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

*Merton*

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

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

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

**The Gospel:** Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 326

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

*Members of the youth formation class have been discussing and writing these Prayers of the People for the season of Advent during the past month. Members of the class will lead us in the Prayers during our Advent worship.*

*The Leaders and People pray responsively. The Leaders begin*

In this season of Advent when we think about waiting and hope and peace and love, we pray to you, O God.

May there be unity of Spirit across all branches of Christianity. May we grow our faith in this time of preparation for Christ's coming. We especially pray for Bishop Sarah Mullally, the newly elected Archbishop of Canterbury, as she prepares for her role to unite the worldwide Anglican Community.

*People*     **We trust in Christ's guidance in unifying us through God's Church.**

Lord, help all in authority to lead with a sound mind and heart. Help them to lead us to unity across all nations. Help them to strive for peace and respect for all rights.

*People*     **Put love and truth in the hearts and actions of those who lead and follow.**

The welfare of the world is important to you and to us, O God. We pray for wars to be over, for greed to cease, and for all to value, listen to, and respect the beliefs and opinions of people and perspectives that are different from our own.

*People*     **Help us to put this hope into action.**

Let the people in the local community who are hurting, homeless, hungry, and afraid, or were affected by Hurricane Helene, turn to God for a safe community of faith.

*People*     **May we accept and welcome those who seek a place of refuge in our community.**

We pray for those who are sick and suffering, including the Revs. John and Paula Morton and Ruthie Morton as they make the trip to Germany this weekend to begin the process of bringing their deceased son, Turner, home for burial. We pray also for Patricia, Judy, Cheryl, Patrick, Susan, Jack, Jim, Ginger, Bob, Betsy, Chuck, Cindy, Chris, Gena, Dorinda, Tawana, Carla, Jeff, Julie, Betsy, Matthew, Anne, Anthony, and Robert. Are there others?

*The people may include the names of those for whom they are praying either silently or aloud.*

May they find the light in the dark. May they have a quick and smooth recovery, and may we be the people they lean on to find support.

*People*     **Let us be the hands and feet of Christ.**

Help us to commemorate those who have transitioned to eternal life, especially Brianna from North Henderson High School and Turner Morton, as well as those who died unknown or forgotten, including the enslaved people buried in our churchyard.

*People*     **May they find love and joy in their resurrection and may their memory linger in our hearts.**

*The Celebrant offers a concluding collect.*

**The Peace**

BCP p. 332

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

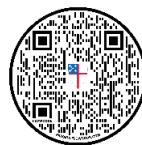
*People*     **And with thy spirit.**

*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 Savior of the Nations, Come

Johann Pachelbel

11:00 Prepare the Way of the Lord

William Rowan

Text: Isaiah 40:4-5

Prepare, prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight his path.

Every valley shall be exalted, every hill made low;

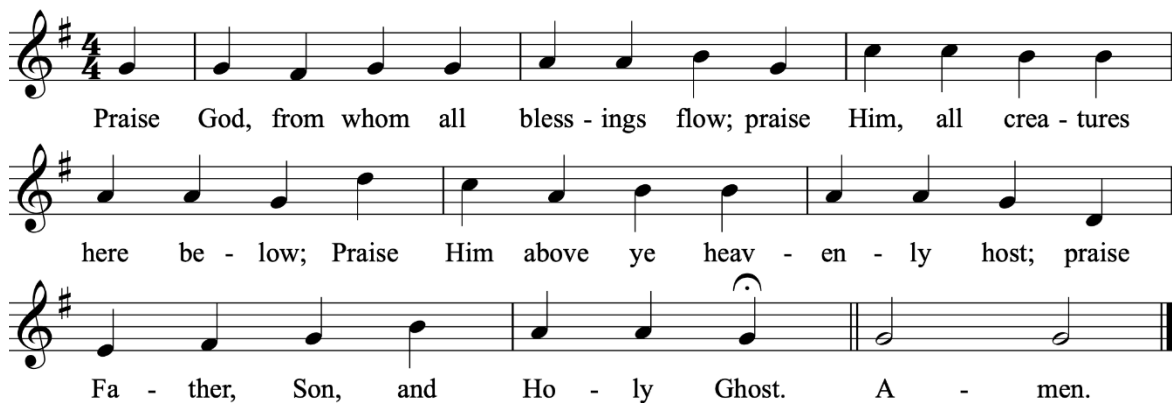
And the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all mankind shall see it together.

Prepare, prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight his path.

## OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Doxology

*The Eighth Tune (Tallis Canon)*



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Him, all crea - tures  
here be - low; Praise Him above ye heav - en - ly 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, whether bishop or priest, 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*

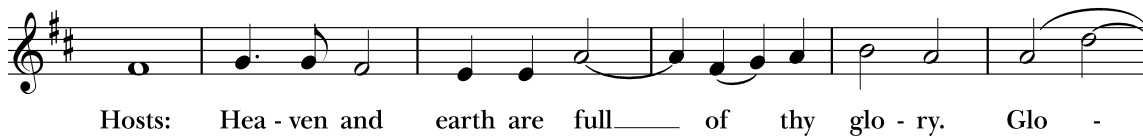
It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

*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,

# SANCTUS

Hymnal S-114



*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 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 broke 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 hath 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.*

*The Celebrant continues*

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

*The following or some other suitable anthem said 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 following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer*

**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 in the back of the bulletin.*

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

**COMMUNION HYMN:** No. 54 Savior of the nations, come    *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*

### **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*

Let us pray.

*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**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

**DISMISSAL HYMN:** No. 65 Prepare the way, O Zion

*Bereden väg för Herran*

### **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:** Prepare the Way, O Zion

Paul Manz



**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: Patricia Haire, Judy Oldenburg, Cheryl Cohen, Patrick Necessary, Susan Rex, Jack, Jim Gibbs, Ginger Quarles, Bob Sundeen, Betsy Thagard, Chuck King, Cindy Brinkmann, Chris Smith, Gena Gross, Dorinda Burnett, Tawana Gibbs, Carla Poe, Jeff, Julie Bleimann, Betsy Darnall, Matthew Kennedy, Anne Vogler, Anthony Dionisio, and Robert Odean.

**The Altar Flowers** are given in loving memory of my parents, William and Betty Broyles, *by Joan Broyles Odean.*

**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, 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				
	The Second Sunday of Advent December 7		The Third Sunday of Advent December 14	
	8:45am	11:15am	8:45am	11:00am
Lay Readers	Judy Petersen	Candace Lewis	John Barker	Bill Taylor
Acolytes	Elaine Howe	Cora Fitzpatrick Joey Saltz Sofia Ridgeway	Jasmine Pharr	Beau Singletary
Ushers	Jodi Sundeen Jim Spry	Bettie Orr Beau Singletary	Marlin Sanders Jerry Holt	D. Christenbury Karen Conley
Greeters	Worth Gordon Cathryn Harrell	Diane & Sandy Skelton	Annabelle Hurd Lois Karcher	Carmen & Ned Curtis
Cart Drivers	BJ McKee & George Grzenda	Chris Kanipe	Kathryn Whitten	John Knapp
Videography <i>(Service)</i>	Jennifer Shelton	N/A	N/A	David Burge
Videography <i>(Formation)</i>	N/A – Annual Meeting/Breakfast		N/A – Spray Assembly in Parish Hall	
Altar Guild	Candace Lewis Kathy Newbold Elaine Harris <i>(Sat.)</i>	Sara Kester Jann Cooper Gibson Sims <i>(Brass)</i>	Brenda Hillyer Laurie Morris <i>(Sat./Brass)</i>	Anne Hobbs Lucie Earhart Slava Morris <i>(Brass)</i>
Flower Guild	Advent Evergreens		Elaine Howe & Virginia Rehn	
Opening Gatekeeper	BJ McKee & George Grzenda		BJ McKee & George Grzenda	
Closing Gatekeeper	Sandy Skelton		Sandy Skelton	



# 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)

**The Rev. Patricia Tanzer Askew**, Priest Associate: [ptaskew@gmail.com](mailto:ptaskew@gmail.com)

**The Rev. Stephen Askew**, Priest Associate: [stephenaskew@gmail.com](mailto:stephenaskew@gmail.com)

**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

Jerry Holt, *Senior Warden*

Jim Cooper, *Junior Warden*

### 2025

Kim Sanders

Patrice German

Laura Teel

### 2026

Jill Owen

Jon Fitzpatrick

Jim Gibbs

Sandy Skelton

### 2027

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:** 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:** Elizabeth Christenbury & Cava Sittnick

**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:** The Revs. Stephen Askew & Patricia Tanzer Askew

**Wedding Coordinator:** Elaine Howe