



*"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing;
it is the gift of God." – Ephesians 2:8*

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

March 30, 2025 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

*(*Indicates where it is appropriate, but not necessary to stand. All speak words in **boldface**.)*

PRELUDE

"The Way of the Cross Leads Home"

Charles H. Gabriel
Arr. Victor Labenske

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Please take a brief moment to greet those around you)

CALLED TO WORSHIP IN RINGING THE TRINITY

INTROIT

OPENING WORDS & PRAYER

I will give you thanks with all my heart;

I will sing your praise before the heavenly beings.

I will bow down toward your holy temple

and give thanks to your name.

You have exalted your name

and your promise above everything else.

On the day I called, you answered me;

You increased strength within me.

Let us worship God!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we say we want to know you better but our actions say otherwise. We say we desire to put you first but we rely on self-reliance. Forgive us for living the Christian life on our terms and walking with you only when convenient. May you be our first priority and not our last. May we pursue you with the same passion that you pursue us. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: #575 “Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”

*Lord, have mercy upon us,
Christ, have mercy upon us,
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 100:1-5

TIME WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE [11:00]

ANTHEM [11:00]

“A Pure Heart”

Craig Courtney

*My heart has wandered from your presence, now I long for You again.
My spirit grieves; my soul is burdened beneath the weight of all my sin.
I now return to you for pardon, Your face alone is all I seek.
Out of Your love and great compassion, O Lord, show mercy unto me.
O now create in me a pure heart, clean and spotless from all sin,
A heart that lives in full surrender where You may enter in.
I now return to You in sorrow, I am restless, without peace.
My heart so wounded deep within me, I fall before You on my knees.
This heart of stone has now been broken. I yearn for You to make it whole
And undivided in devotion, a heart that beats for You alone.
Lord, do not cast me from Your presence, refine me in Your fire.
O now create in me a pure heart where You are my desire.
Where You shall be my one desire, my one desire.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 15:1-3, 12b-32

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“The Blind Leading the Blind”

Rev. Dr. Sid Batts

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *The Apostles’ Creed*

What do we believe?

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING

****Response: #645 “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above” (v. 1)**

*Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.*

*With healing balm, my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled,
to God all praise and glory!*

***Prayer of Dedication**

*HYMN #446

“How Blest, Those Whose Transgressions”

MEIRIONYDD

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Rev. Dr. Sid Batts is a retired Presbyterian minister who was the senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, NC for 18 years. Prior he served churches in Mobile, Al, Atlanta, Dunn and Lowell, NC. He has degrees from High Point University, Princeton Theological Seminary and McCormick Seminary in Chicago. He is the author of several books and is often a guest preacher in churches across North Carolina. A native Tar Heel, he and his wife, Cathy, (a former educator and principal), have 2 daughters, five grandchildren and have lived in St James since 2018. Sid enjoys golf, reading, genealogy and The Beatles.

Ushers: Sarah & Tobin Henry
Greeter: Don Lewis
Welcome Table: Brenda Lewis
Liturgist: Kim Smithwick
Acolyte: Steven Vattimo

The flowers are dedicated to the glory of God by Jack & Bonnie Treadway and in loving memory of our parents and grandparents.

SPC CHURCH OFFICERS

Elders

Class of 2025

Kitty Green (Clerk)
Sarah Henry
Rusty Russ
Linda Stackhouse

Class of 2026

John Cardwell
Kim Smithwick
Steve Wingfield
Lynne Young

Deacons

Class of 2025

Barbara English
Carol Kauffman
Brenda Lewis
Rosalee Rockafellow

Class of 2026

Lurae Albert
Leslie Claiborne
Tobin Henry (Mod.)
Susan Lehmann

Class of 2027

Patsy Calhoun
Mike Clawson
Eric Lehmann
Mac Warner

Class of 2027

Linda Black
Sarah Braddock
Sarah Cook
Bart Norwood



Shallotte Presbyterian Church

Rev. George W. Chapman III, Pastor
Paul Freeman, Director of Music
Tetyana Allston, Organist
Christina Watts, Church Administrator
Linda Rowell, Financial Secretary
Bonnie Bruce, Custodian

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Welcoming others as God has welcomed us.

