

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY

“My Lord, What a Morning!”

- arr. Eugene Hancock

*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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

WE FOLLOW GOD’S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN

“You Shall Go Out With Joy”
The Trees of the Field

No. 80
THE TREES OF THE FIELD

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Recessional

- Douglas Wagner

*Those who are able, please stand.



*Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Carol McDonald
in honor of all the children of WOW, past and present ...*

We warmly greet all who have gathered to worship God and
extend a special welcome to those visiting.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY: The Rev. Natasha Blackwood, Pastor; Elizabeth Nix, Director of Christian Education; Logan Ciokan, Interim Choir Director; Moneen Bethea, Accompanist; Julie Jones, Liturgist; Eloise Mabry, Acolytes; Logan Ciokan, Elder of the Month; Chuck Watkins, Deacon/Greeter; Jerry Phipps and Valerie Moore, Ushers; Tim Kline, Judy Laut, Rik Blackwood and Lawton Baker, Sound.

Cover Art: Philip Catechizes the Ethiopian Eunuch, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58595> [retrieved April 3, 2024]



275 Knox Lane ♦ West End, NC 27376
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Church Office Hours
Monday-Thursday: 9:00am-12:30pm
Available by Appointment: 12:30 - 4:00pm



WEST END PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

275 Knox Lane, West End NC • www.westendpres.church



“Philip Catechizes the Ethiopian Eunuch”, Exeter College Chapel, Oxford

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY
APRIL 28, 2024 | 5TH SUNDAY IN EASTER



WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place. Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful find comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed. Here may the aged find consolation, and the young be inspired; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

INTROIT

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRELUDE

"To God All Praise and Glory "

- Roger Wilson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 22:25-31

Leader: From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

People: **The poor shall eat and be satisfied. Let those who seek the LORD give praise!
May your hearts live forever!**

Leader: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

People: **For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

Leader: Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

People: **Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

All: **They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them,
"The LORD has acted!"**

*OPENING HYMN

"For the Fruit of All Creation"

No. 36

LYONS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We thank you, gracious God, for Jesus Christ the true vine, with his roots eternally grounded in you. We rejoice that by grace we have been grafted into him, to be branches on a vine which bears the loveliest of all the fruits of earth. Yet we confess the occasions when we have been the ones to introduce disease into the vine, preferring its contamination to the vigor of health. Forgive us for neglecting to draw deeply on the sap of Life, for being content, and sometimes proud of, diseased undersized fruits, and for the seasons of apathy not bearing any fruit at all.

Do not lose patience with us. Have mercy on us and do not sever us from the true vine. Discipline and train our wandering tendrils, prune our unfruitful branches and cut away diseased ones. May we remain in Christ and he in us, through all the changing seasons of life. Let us delight in bearing the fruits of love which are our true purpose and joy.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE

“Gloria Patri”

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. Amen.

OFFICER INSTALLATION

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL

Elizabeth Nix

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:1-8

Pg. 103

ANTHEM

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Ruth Elaine Schram

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 8:26-40

Pg. 119

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Rev. Natasha Blackwood

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

*HYMN

“I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry”

No.488

WATERLIFE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.