

We Remember in Prayer...

Betty Gilmore - Kenny Drafts - Chris Jones - Bennie Horne - Johnny Corley - Neil Shealy - Carol Hall - Rev. Lavaughn Keisler - Royce Segar - Rebekah Tinman - Charles Shealy - Linda Price - David Morris - Shannon Pytel - Randy Ricard - Halee Gray - Pete Miller - Angela Smith - Nancy Tinman - Betty Bouknight - Ashley Mullins - Wayne Burns - Tim Boyd - Cody McGinty - Tamera Butler - Jackie Oxner - Family of Joyce Chavis - Family of Dylan Carter - Family of Barney Hoover

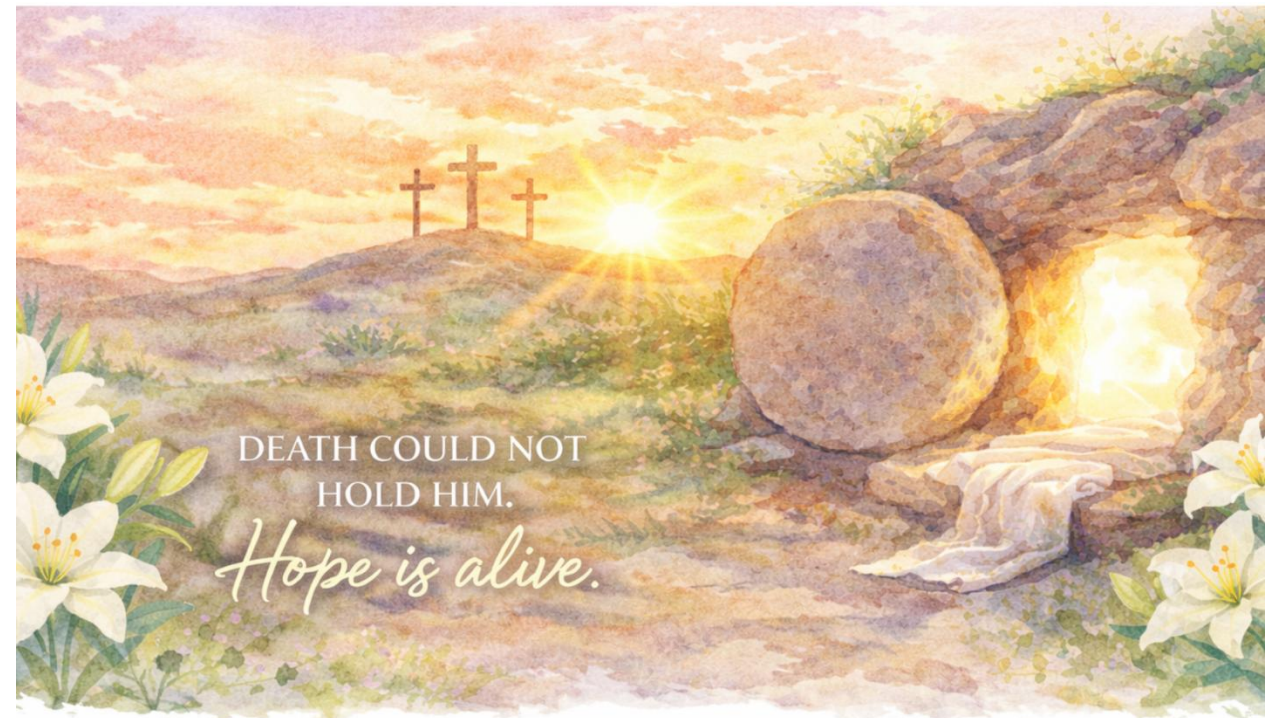
Send a card to Homebound and care facility members...

Ellie Long (205 St. Paul's Church Rd. Gilbert, SC 29054) - **Carol Ann Green** (Columbia Presbyterian Community #78 Room H-14, 700 Davega Drive Lexington SC 29073) - **Delle Price** (Lakeside Place Senior Living, 487 Hwy 378. Lexington, SC 29072. Room 404) - **Carl & Juanelle Swygert** (505 Spool Wheel Rd. Gilbert, SC 29054) - **Virginia Cousins** (Saluda Nursing Center. 581 Newberry Hwy. Riley Unit Room 319-A. Saluda, SC 29138) - **Rachel Price** (Lowman Home, PO Box 444, White Rock, SC 29177) - **Jaye Snelgrove** (Hartford Retirement Village. 12196 East State Hwy 52 Hartford, AL 36344) - **LouVeria Price** (Lexington Extended Care, 815 Old Cherokee Rd. Lexington, SC 29072, Room 238A Spence Place) - **Sam Johnson** (3310 Augusta Hwy. Gilbert, SC 29054) - **Brenda Keisler** (2220 Priceville Rd. Gilbert, SC 29054) - **Lona Hutto** (272 Harley Taylor Rd. Gilbert, SC 29054)

Remember our Military...

Ervin Baker - Chris Barefoot - Kevin Clowdis - DJ Hoover - Jeff Hoover - Cody Hutto - Carter Lybrand - Todd Morgan - Ryan Shaw - Henry Hutto - Christopher Welch - Ben Risher - Ben Schimek

*The flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of our St. Paul's Family.
Given by Bennie & Faye Horne.*



MAY 3, 2026

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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Welcome and Announcements

Song *I Will Celebrate* **W&P #71**

We Confess our Sins and Receive Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God, who was, who is, and who is to come.
Amen.

Mighty God... We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Hear the good news! Christ is risen! Death has been defeated and sin has lost its power. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has shown mercy to us and given us new life. I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Song *I Was Glad* **W&P #68**

We Worship and Praise the Lord

The grace of the Risen Lord Jesus, the love of the Father, and the presence of His Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Very truly Jesus tells us, ‘Whoever believes in me’,
I am a child of God blessed by Father, Son and the Spirit.

Very truly Jesus tells us, ‘Whoever believes in me’,
I will not perish but will live forever!

Very truly Jesus tells us, ‘Whoever believes in me’,
I will do the things Jesus is doing!

Very truly Jesus tells us, ‘Whoever believes in me’,
We will do greater things in His Holy Name!

Do not be troubled. Jesus said, ‘Whoever believes in me’
Jesus prepares a place for you and me! Amen!

Every prayer, every plea, every request, we place in the Risen Hands of our Lord and merciful Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

We Receive the Sacrament of Salvation

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Words of Institution

In the night in which He was betrayed, Jesus took bread, He gave thanks. He gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat, this is my Body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and drink. This is the blood of the new covenant, given and shed for you and for all people, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray. **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, forever and ever. Amen.**

Distribution of the Sacrament

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in faith and hope this day and always, **Amen.**

May the joy of the resurrection fill your hearts today and always. Go forth into the world to share the love of Christ, walking in the light of His victory. The Lord Is Risen in the one Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Hymn *We Are Called* **ELW #720**

He is Risen! **He is Risen, indeed, Alleluia!**

Doxology
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

Prayers for the Church

Risen Lord Jesus, we prepare our hearts to come to your table. Come, Risen Lord, be fully present. Speak your promise of forgiveness in the broken bread, bring to our remembrance the salvation in the cup you share. Send your holy angels to comfort us in the faith of your Easter promise. Send us forth to share the news of our living Lord, the good news of forgiveness and salvation. Risen Lord Jesus. **Hear our prayer.**

Risen Lord Jesus, we prepare our hands to come to your table. Come, Risen Lord be fully present. Open our hands to receive a living bread. Open our hands to pray for mercy and strength. Open our hands to help a neighbor in need. Open our hearts to receive the fullness of your resurrection presence. Send your holy angels to comfort us in the faith of your Easter promise. Send us forth to share the news of our living Lord, the good news of forgiveness and salvation. Risen Lord Jesus. **Hear our prayer.**

Risen Lord Jesus, we prepare our lives to come to your table. Come, Risen Lord be fully present. Use our hearts, our hands, our feet, our voices to carry the blessed news of Easter to your world. Inspire our witness of hope, justice, peace and love in your holy risen Name. Send your holy angels to comfort us in the faith of your Easter promise. Send us forth to share the news of our living Lord, the good news of forgiveness and salvation. Risen Lord Jesus. **Hear our prayer.**

Risen Lord Jesus, we prepare our prayer and our plea. Come, Risen Lord be full present. Save us O God. Save us from the hatred we have for our enemy. Save us from anger and hatred for the stranger. Save us from selfishness and sin. We plead for those who suffer and hurt this hour. We plead for those who wake in hospitals and homes. Restore your children. Heal your people in your Holy Word and Will. (Pastor shares national, local concerns and prays for members and friends in our community). Send your holy angels to comfort us in the faith of your Easter promise. Send us forth to share the news of our living Lord, the good news of forgiveness and salvation. Risen Lord Jesus. **Hear our prayer.**

Easter Praise Song

ELW #604

**But now the bonds of death are burst, the ransom has been paid,
You reign above at God's right hand, in robes of light arrayed,
In robes of light arrayed!**

**All praise to you, ascended Lord,
all glory ever be to Father, Son and and Spirit blest,
through all eternity, through all eternity!**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray together. **Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Children's Sermon

We Hear God's Holy Word

Scripture Lesson

Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, **"I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"** ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, **"Lord, do not hold this sin against them."** When he had said this, he died.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Scripture Lesson

1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ Come to him, a

We Hear God's Word for Daily Living

Sermon

"We Are Doing Greater Things!"

Pastor Matt Lash

Hymn

He is Lord

He is Lord, He is Lord! He is risen from the dead and He is
Lord! Ev-'ry knee shall bow, ev-'ry tongue con - fess
That Je - sus Christ is Lord.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sharing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Offering of Our Gifts/Distribution

living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," ⁸ and "A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹ **But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people,** in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, **but now you are God's people;** once you had not received mercy, **but now you have received mercy.**

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

The Holy Gospel

John 14:1-14

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹ "Do not let your hearts be troubled. **Believe in God; believe also in me.** ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "**Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?**" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." ⁸ Philip said to him, "**Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.**" ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹² **Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.** ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**