



**Be alert
because you
do not know
the day
or the hour.**

Matthew 25:1

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 12, 2023 • 10:30AM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

205 St. Paul's Church Road, Salisbury, NC

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Acolyte: Cooper Aldridge • Crucifer: Ryan Friel

Lector: Susan Ryman • Cantor: Stan McConnell

Communion Assistants: Gina Barringer,

D. W. Honbarger, Terri Powlas

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “Variations on ‘Slane’”

David Lasky

The Ten Commandments *Please stand.*

The Lord is God, our God, and has brought us out of bondage to sin and death, commanding us to observe our conduct before him and our neighbor.

¹You shall have no other gods before me.

**²You shall not take the name
of the Lord your God in vain;
for the Lord will not hold guiltless
those who take his name in vain.**

**³Remember the Sabbath day
to keep it holy.**

**⁴Honor your father
and your mother,
that your days may be long
in the land which the Lord
your God is giving you.**

⁵You shall not kill.

⁶You shall not commit adultery.

⁷You shall not steal.

**⁸You shall not bear false witness
against your neighbor.**

**⁹You shall not covet
your neighbor’s house.**

**¹⁰You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife,
his workers, his livestock,
or anything that is your neighbor’s.**

Confession and Absolution

Greeting and Kyrie Eleison

74

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.



Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

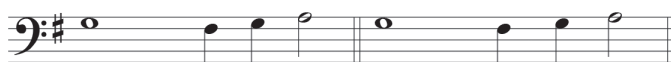


Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

75

Leader:

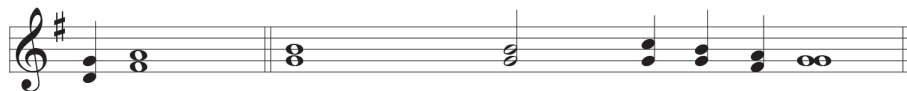


Glory be to God on high!

Congregation:



And on earth peace, good will toward all. We praise you, we bless you,



we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory,



O Lord God, heaven - ly King, God the Father Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God,
 Son of the Father: You take away the sin of the world, have mercy
 on us. You take away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
 You sit at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy on us.
 For you are holy; you on - ly are the Lord; You only, O Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

77

Leader: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And with your spirit

Almighty, eternal God, show mercy to your children who humbly pray, that we who have no confidence in our worth, may not be judged but tenderly received. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A - men.

Please be seated.

First Lesson: Amos 5:18–24

¹⁸Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! Why would you have the day of the LORD? It is darkness, and not light, ¹⁹as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him. ²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? ²¹“I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. ²³Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps, I will not listen. ²⁴But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 70

¹Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;

O LORD, make | haste to help me.

²**Let those who seek my life be ashamed
and altogeth- | er dismayed;**

**let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and | be disgraced.**

³Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat over | me turn back,
because they | are ashamed.

⁴**Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever,
“Great | is the LORD!”**

⁵But as for me, I am | poor and needy;
come to me speedi- | ly, O God.

⁶**You are my helper and | my deliverer;
O LORD, | do not tarry.**

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

¹⁶For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

Offering: Scan the QR code to the right to be taken directly to the giving page on your phone or tablet.



Anthem: “How Blessed Is This Place, O Lord”

Adult Choir

Gospel Acclamation *Please stand for the Gospel.*

78



The Holy Gospel is written in the 25th chapter of Matthew.

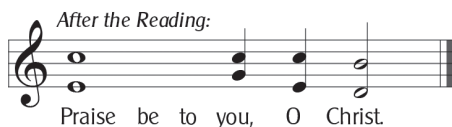


Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

¹[Jesus said to the disciples,] “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’

¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



Apostles Creed

81

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

Children's Chat

Sermon: "The Oil of Faith"

Hymn: "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

192

Prayers of the Church

Following each prayer: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen

Exhortation

85

Preface and Sanctus

86-88

The musical notation is written on two staves. The first staff is divided into two parts: the first part is for the Leader and the second part is for the Congregation. The notes are in a simple, melodic style, with lyrics written below the notes. The second staff is for the Leader and continues the melody.

Leader *Congregation*

The Lord be with you. And with your spir - it

Leader

Lift up your hearts.



It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God—through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord and Savior, who ascending above the heavens and sitting at your right hand, poured out the Holy Spirit upon the chosen disciples as he had promised, causing the whole earth to rejoice.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you, and saying:





The Lord's Prayer

90

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

¹**hallowed be thy name,**

²**thy kingdom come,**

³**thy will be done,**

on earth as it is in heaven.

⁴**Give us this day our daily bread;**

⁵**and forgive us our trespasses,**

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

⁶**and lead us not into temptation,**

⁷**but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus, on the night in which he was betrayed, 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 for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: Take, and drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Agnus Dei

91

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin
of the world, have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world,
grant us peace. A - - - - - men.

Distribution of Communion

92

Remain seated after the distribution.

May the body and precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in true faith to everlasting life.

Thanksgiving

We thank and praise you, almighty and loving Father, for feeding us with the body and blood of your beloved son, Jesus Christ.

Having received this holy Sacrament with our mouths, may our faith in you apprehend and enjoy your grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ and his Church, and everlasting life. Send your Holy Spirit to remind us of these promises throughout the week, and keep us in the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Nunc Dimittus

92

Lord, now let your servant de- | part in | peace,
ac- | cording to | your | word.
For my eyes have | seen your sal- | vation,
which you have prepared before the | face of | all | people:
A light to | lighten the | Gentiles
and the | glory of your | people | Israel.
Glory | be to the | Father,
and to the | Son, and to the | Holy | Spirit,
As it | was in the be- | ginning,
is now, and ever shall be, | world without | end. | A- | men

Benedicamus

93

The musical notation for the Benedicamus consists of two staves. The first staff is for the Leader and the Congregation. The Leader's part is a single note (G4) followed by a whole rest. The Congregation's part is a whole note (G4). The second staff is also for the Leader and the Congregation. The Leader's part is a single note (G4) followed by a whole rest. The Congregation's part is a whole note (G4). The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. Bless the Lord. Thanks be to God."

Leader: Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

Leader: Congregation:

Bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

David Lasky

We remain seated, worshipping silently during the postlude, standing at the end of the postlude to face the processional cross, now at the rear of the sanctuary.

Benediction

93

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

The musical notation for the Benediction consists of a single staff. The Congregation's part is a whole note (G4) followed by a whole rest. The lyrics are: "A - men."

Congregation:

A - men.

Recent Prayer Needs

- Carolyn Cress – Autumn Care, room 622
- Johnny Jenkins (property brother) – Health concerns
- Michelle Linker – Recovering at home from surgery
- Mike Morris – Health concerns
- George Reese – Recovering at home from surgery
- April Simmons – Health concerns

Please see the monthly Epistle for a complete list of prayer needs for members, homebound, family, and friends.

November Blood Drive—The final blood drive of the year at our church will be **tomorrow, November 13th, from 1:30pm – 6:00pm** in the fellowship hall. Please consider being a donor and helping the church reach its goal in November. Contact person is Alice Davis, 704-855-4930 or pferford1@yahoo.com.

Pictorial Directory Update—Universal Church Directories will be at St. James Catholic Church in Concord, on November 17th and 18th. If you did not sit for a photo session in the spring, call Mark Cantey at 704-579-9678 for an appointment. If you wish to submit one of your own photos instead, there is a fee of \$15. We should have the pictorial directories by the new year.

Binns-Counts Christmas—Next Sunday, November 19th, is the last day to donate children's toys and gifts. If you wish to donate money instead of shopping, you may do so in the church offering, noting on the envelope *Binns-Counts*.

Help Girl Scout troop 743 (St. Paul's Troop) honor local heros. Please sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veterans grave at the Salisbury National Cemetery Annex. Each wreath is **\$17**. All money needs to be to Nicole Amos by November 27th, or scan the QR code to donate.



Thanksgiving Eve worship service will be on Wednesday, November 22, at 7pm. The church office will be closed on Thursday, November 23, and Friday, November 24, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Sunday, November 12

- Kid's Christmas practice during Sunday School, 9:30am
- Annual Congregational Meeting, 10:30am
- Concert rehearsals, in the sanctuary, 1pm–5pm (see next page)
- Worship & Music Committee, 2pm
- Men's Choir practice, 4pm
- Handbell Choir practice, 5pm
- Vespers at the Parsonage—fellowship at 6pm; prayer at 6:30pm

Monday, November 13

- Afterschool program for Faith Academy, 1pm–3pm
- Blood Drive, 1:30–6pm

Tuesday, November 14

- Adult Confirmation Class, 6pm
- Girl Scouts, 6:45pm
- Bonnie Bost Circle, 7pm

Wednesday, November 15

- Adult Choir practice, 6:30pm
- Youth Confirmation class, 7:30pm

Thursday, November 16

- Bible study, 10am and 6pm

Friday, November 17

- Fellowship hall and Sanctuary reserved—Lyerly

Saturday, November 18

- Fellowship hall and Sanctuary reserved—Lyerly

Sunday, November 19

- Kid's Christmas practice during Sunday School, 9:30am
- Concert check-in/walk-through, sanctuary, 2pm
- Autumn Care worship service, 2pm
- Cemetery Committee meeting, Conference Room, 4pm
- Men's Choir practice, 4pm
- Handbell Choir practice, 5pm
- Vespers at the Parsonage—fellowship at 6pm; prayer at 6:30pm

Christmas Concert Check-in/Walk-Through is next Sunday, November 19, at 2:00pm in Sanctuary. All volunteers should attend this walk through so we can gauge progress and work on any issues. **Today's rehearsals for the concert** are in the sanctuary as follows:

- 1:00–1:45 pm–A Cappella Group (Mary, Did You Know?)
- 1:45–2:15 pm–Trio (A Little Night Caroling)
- 2:15–3:15 pm–Solos/Duet (God with Us; Somewhere in Your Silent Night; Light of the World; Christmas Eve in Bethlehem)
- 3:15–4:00 pm–Mixed Ensemble (Make Room)
- 4:00–5:00 pm–Youth Group (Oh, What a Glorious Night)

The concert is on Saturday, December 23rd, at 4pm.

Make a Joyful Noise for Christmas!

Would you like to spread some Christmas cheer by singing Christmas Carols? The Outreach Committee will be sponsoring a **Christmas Caroling** event on **Sunday, December 3rd**, after church. The committee will provide sub sandwiches, chips, drink and dessert before we go caroling.

We will accompany Pastor Ryman to Autumn Care for the service, then “Deck the Halls” with more carols. If we could get enough to sign up to go, we would like to take another group to the shut-ins. We know there are a lot of people working on the church concert that day, but if you do not have a part, think about singing with the Outreach Committee.

In order to plan for the meal, please sign up on the friendship register. If you have any questions, please call Susan Bernhardt, 704-637-0155, or email srbernhardt@carolina.rr.com.

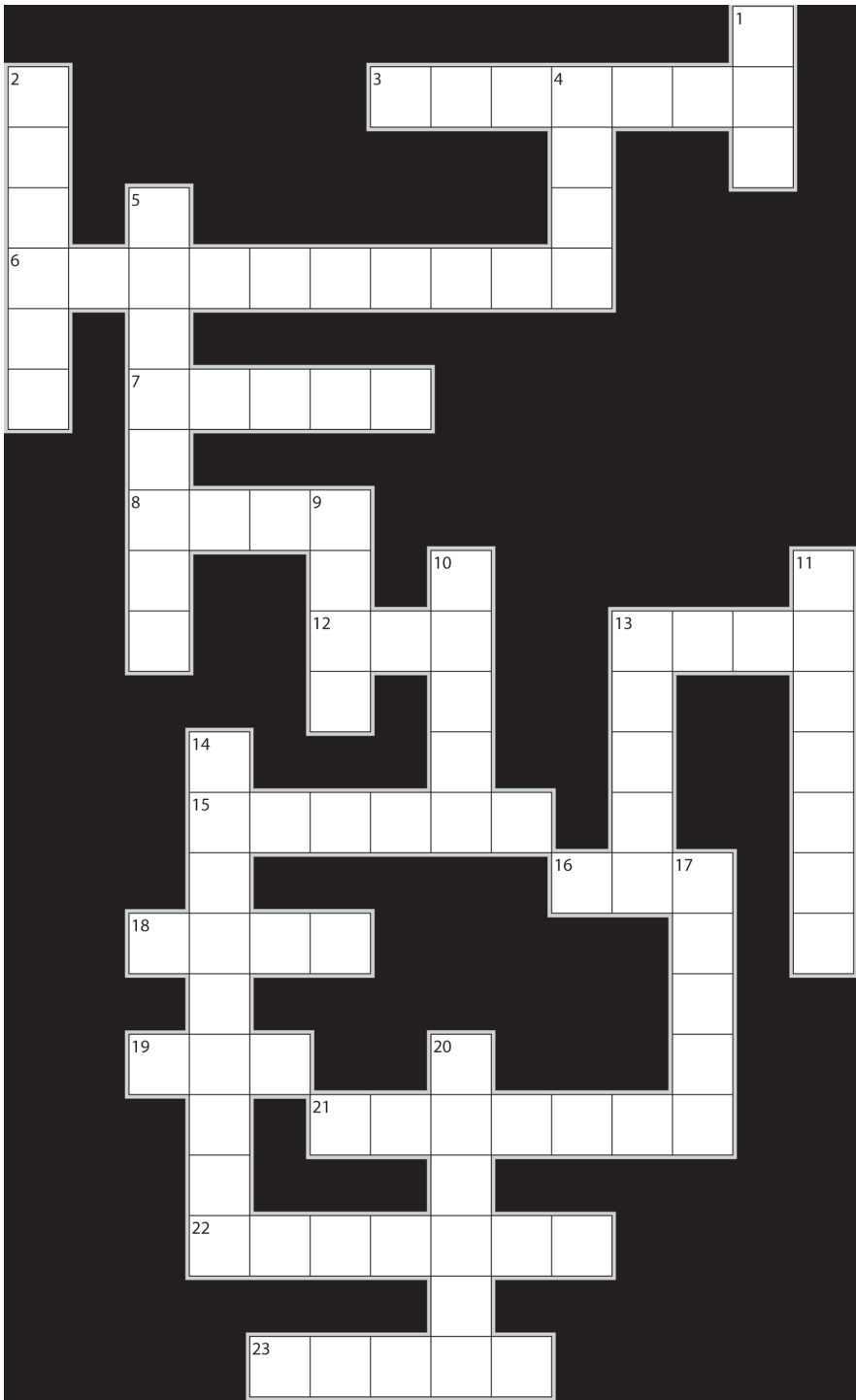
Stewardship

General Fund Offering (11/5)	\$8,049
Other Offering (11/5)	\$1,763
Sunday School Attendance (11/5)	87
Worship Attendance (11/5)	193
Children’s Mission (4th quarter–Lutheran Military Veterans)	
\$139.50 last Sunday; quarter so far: \$791.50	

Gospel Challenge

Read the gospels between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

- ☐ November 23, 2023 — Matthew 1:1–5:48
- ☐ November 24, 2023 — Matthew 6:1–9:34
- ☐ November 25, 2023 — Matthew 10:1–11:30
- ☐ November 26, 2023 — Matthew 12:1–13:58
- ☐ November 27, 2023 — Matthew 14:1–16:28
- ☐ November 28, 2023 — Matthew 17:1–19:30
- ☐ November 29, 2023 — Matthew 20:1–22:46
- ☐ November 30, 2023 — Matthew 23:1–24:51
- ☐ December 1, 2023 — Matthew 25:1–26:75
- ☐ December 2, 2023 — Matthew 27:1–28:20
- ☐ December 3, 2023 — Mark 1:1–3:35
- ☐ December 4, 2023 — Mark 4:1–6:56
- ☐ December 5, 2023 — Mark 7:1–9:50
- ☐ December 6, 2023 — Mark 10:1–11:33
- ☐ December 7, 2023 — Mark 12:1–14:11
- ☐ December 8, 2023 — Mark 14:12–16:20
- ☐ December 9, 2023 — Luke 1:1–2:52
- ☐ December 10, 2023 — Luke 3:1–5:39
- ☐ December 11, 2023 — Luke 6:1–7:50
- ☐ December 12, 2023 — Luke 8:1–9:62
- ☐ December 13, 2023 — Luke 10:1–12:59
- ☐ December 14, 2023 — Luke 13:1–15:32
- ☐ December 15, 2023 — Luke 16:1–18:43
- ☐ December 16, 2023 — Luke 19:1–21:38
- ☐ December 17, 2023 — Luke 22:1–71
- ☐ December 18, 2023 — Luke 23:1–24:53
- ☐ December 19, 2023 — John 1:1–4:54
- ☐ December 20, 2023 — John 5:1–6:71
- ☐ December 21, 2023 — John 7:1–8:59
- ☐ December 22, 2023 — John 9:1–11:57
- ☐ December 23, 2023 — John 12:1–14:31
- ☐ December 24, 2023 — John 15:1–18:40
- ☐ December 25, 2023 — John 19:1–21:25



Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Find the answers in today's four Scripture lessons.

*It may help with the Psalm if you use the English Standard Version
instead of the old Psalter in the bulletin.*

ACROSS

3. Five of the virgins were wise, and five were...
6. Paul did not want the brothers to be...
7. David was poor and...
8. Let those who seek God be...
12. Where will we meet the Lord on that Day?
13. We do not know the day or the...
15. God despised Israel's...
16. The kingdom of heaven will be like how many virgins?
18. The day of the Lord is as if one fled from a lion, only to meet by a...
19. What were some of the virgins lacking when the groom returned?
21. Let this roll down like waters.
22. The day of the Lord is as if this bit someone
23. What did the virgins take to meet the bridegroom?

DOWN

1. Let those who say this to David be turned back.
2. Where will believers be caught up together at the resurrection?
4. David's help
5. The cry was heard at this time.
9. Who will rise first?
10. God is...
11. What audible cue of the Lord's return will there be?
13. David wanted delivered with...
14. God said he would not accept Israel's...
17. God considered Israel's singing to be...
20. Paul said that those who died in the Lord were...



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

OUR MISSION

A family of faith sharing the gospel and love of Christ

Phone: 704-633-0922

Email: secretary@stpaulslutheran.church

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Mark Ryman, Pastor
pastor@stpaulslutheran.church

Pamela Cottingham, Secretary
secretary@stpaulslutheran.church

Perry Bernhardt, Council President
perryhbernhardt@gmail.com

John Brock, Music Director
splcmusicalisbury@gmail.com

Johnsie Taylor, Organist
jtaylor783@aol.com

Judy Lowman, Treasurer
jlowman1@carolina.rr.com

Alison Moore, Girl Scout Coordinator, 704-467-9191

Next Sunday's Lessons: Zephaniah 1:7-16; Psalm 90:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

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