







CREATED TO CARE



11:00 a.m. Worship • April 13, 2025

Exploring Faith. Changing Lives.

Sardis Presbyterian Church is an inclusive congregation called to equip disciples of Jesus Christ to impact the world by:

-  **PRAISING** God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer
-  **LEARNING** about God's will for our lives
-  **LOVING** one another unconditionally
-  **SERVING** neighbors near and far
-  **SHARING** the gifts with which we have been blessed
-  **WITNESSING** to the Good News of Jesus Christ to provide hope for the world.

We are honored that you chose to worship God with us this morning. If you are looking for a church home, we would love to help you explore the possibility that Sardis is the place God is calling you to worship and serve.

WORSHIP



April 13, 2025

THE CHAPEL (through the doors to left of the pulpit) is available, with audio of the worship service, for those who need it (e.g. families with young children, those with health challenges, etc.).

* * *

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES with disposable ear coverings are available. Please speak with an usher and they will provide one for you. Additionally, Sardis now has a hearing loop in the Sanctuary. If your hearing aid has a t-coil, please sit in the main section of the sanctuary to take advantage of this technology.

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WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY is provided in the main body of the Sanctuary, on the side aisles on the seventh pew, and in the transept area. A handicap unisex bathroom is located in the left rear hallway.

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PASTORAL EMERGENCIES: After hours and on weekends or holidays, please call the church office and leave a message, including a call-back number. A Pastor will be in touch with you shortly.

WORSHIPING GOD TOGETHER

† Rise in body or in spirit.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

OPENING VOLUNTARY

"Pour le Fete des Rameaux 'Hosanna Filio David'"

Dr. Timothy D. Belflowers, *organ*
Jeanne Joulain

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Allysen Schaaf

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalms 148:1-13

Natalie Klug

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise the Lord in the heights!

People: Praise God, all God's angels; praise God, all God's host!

Leader: Praise God, sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars!

People: Praise God, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for the Lord commanded and they were created.

People: God established them forever and ever; God fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Leader: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

People: fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling God's command!

Leader: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

People: Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

Leader: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

People: Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for the Lord's name alone is exalted.

People: The Lord's glory is above earth and heaven.

Leader: Let us worship God!

† HYMN #196

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Natalie Klug

God of grace and glory, we join voices in praise to you, gladly proclaiming you as our King. Yet we have not followed your rule. We seek more to fulfill our own desires than to accomplish your will, we strive more to extend our influence than to seek your kingdom. Forgive us for saying one thing, while living another. Help us by your Spirit to walk in your way of the cross, that we would love God with all our hearts, and our neighbors as ourselves.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Natalie Klug

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

† RESPONSE #581

"Glory be to the Father"

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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Amanda Hooks

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Dr. Joe B. Martin

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Revelation 7:9-12

Dr. Martin

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Let All Creation Praise the Lord

Dr. Martin

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from A Declaration of Faith (1976) Dr. Martin
God created and rules in love. God created all the worlds that are and upholds and rules everything. We affirm that the universe exists by the power of God's Word and Spirit. God has chosen to give it reality out of the love we have come to know in Christ. God still works through the processes that shape and change the earth and the living things upon it. We acknowledge God's care and control in the regularity of the universe as well as in apparently random happenings. There is no event from which God is absent and God's ultimate purpose in all events is just and loving. That purpose embraces our choices and will surely be accomplished. The Creator works in all things toward the new creation that is promised in Christ.

† HYMN #197 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" ELLACOMBE

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Dr. Schaaf
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.

THE PRESENTATION OF GOD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERING Dr. Schaaf
Please place your Prayer Request Cards in the offering basket.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Hosanna in the Highest" Craig Courtney
Sanctuary Choir

"Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!"

† DOXOLOGY #606 "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" OLD 100th
**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.**

SENT BY THE WORD

† HYMN #385 "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" OLD 100th

† BLESSING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE Dr. Martin
Leader: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

*Let's pass that peace with one another
before we follow Jesus by carrying it out into the world.*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Dr. Belflowers, organ
"Toccata on 'Hosanna, Loud Hosanna'" arr. Gilbert M. Martin

The Ushers today are members of the Missions ministry.

* * *

God's children of all ages are welcome in worship! Children's worship activity bags can be found at the front entrance and in the younger children's worship space. The open space in the front right is provided for children 5 and under to experience all aspects of worship in ways that meet their developmental needs. Audio of the service can be heard in the Chapel if you and your child need to step out for a bit and the nursery is also open during worship for children 5 years and younger in the Education Building. Ask an usher if you need directions and speak with one of the pastors or Amanda Hooks if you have questions about how best to include your child in the experience of worship.

* * *

We have several offering options for you!

Option 1: Make a credit card gift online using your mobile device: go to sardis.org and click on "Make a Gift Now"

Option 2: Text 'Sardis + amount' to 73256 (e.g. 'Sardis 100' = \$100)

Option 3: Click the QR code here to go directly to the secure online form.



Option 4: Place your offering in the offering plate.

Thank you for your gifts and support of Sardis Presbyterian Church.



The candle today is in celebration of the birth of
Noah James Wright,
son of Elizabeth Wright, born April 3, 2025.



THIS WEEK AT SARDIS

Monday, April 14

6:00 p.m. Ministry Meetings Various

Tuesday, April 15

9:00 a.m. Yoga Sardis House

Wednesday, April 16

7:00 p.m. Pickup Basketball Fellowship Hall

Thursday, April 17

9:00 a.m. Yoga Sardis House

6:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service Sanctuary

8:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Choir Room

Friday, April 18

12:00 p.m. Good Friday Service Sardis Baptist Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us for Maundy Thursday Service, April 17, 7:00 p.m. Experience the profound beauty of Maundy Thursday as we gather to remember Jesus's last evening with the disciples. Service will be in the Sanctuary, where we will share in the sacred tradition of Holy Communion and reflect on Christ's example of servant leadership and divine love.

Good Friday at Sardis Baptist— Join us for a meaningful Good Friday service at Sardis Baptist Church at 12:00 p.m. In this hour of reflection and worship, we will gather as a community to remember Christ's sacrifice and its profound meaning for our lives today.

Easter Sunday Services, April 20: Experience the joy of resurrection with us on April 20th. Services at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Everyone welcome! There will also be an egg hunt for preschool-aged children through 5th grade children at 10:00 a.m. on the South Lawn. Don't forget to bring your flowers to be placed on the Easter flower cross.

Make a Sardis Member Smile! Volunteers are needed each Sunday after the 11:00 a.m. service to deliver flowers to Sardis members. Simply pick up the flowers after the 11:00 a.m. service, deliver the flowers and have a short visit with a Sardis member, then enjoy the smiles and thanks you get by bringing joy into someone's day! Use the QR code at the bottom of the page to sign up.

Sardis Earth Day Festival is Back! On Saturday, May 3 from 3:00-7:00 p.m. the whole community is invited to join us on the South Lawn for an epic celebration of our planet! Enjoy live music, kids' activities, crafts, and nature fun. Bring your refillable water bottle for a free Earth Day sticker-rain or shine. Invite your friends and neighbors for a day of community and Earth love!

Sardis Sign-Up Genius! Use this QR code to access any and all Sardis Sign-Ups.



The flowers today are
given to the Glory of God
in loving memory of
Joe Porter and Bill Porter
by Lavelle and daughters
Kim, Anne, and Susie.

CREATED TO CARE LENTEN PRACTICES



Bring your reusable water bottle and coffee cup to church



Unplug the chargers for your cellphone and laptop when you leave your home or office



Buy food from a local farmer's market



Check your tire pressure. Low tire pressure = higher fuel consumption



Participate in Earth Hour on March 22 by switching electricity off at 8:30 p.m.



Donate to offset your carbon use for longer trips or daily commutes at bit.ly/pcusatreefund



Reduce waste by composting, shopping in bulk, and not using single-use plastics



Learn how many planets we need if everyone lived like you: bit.ly/gfnorg



Buy Fair Trade products for your easter baskets like chocolate & teas



Clean up litter in your community or along your favorite walking path or greenway



Consider planting plants that are native to NC in your yard



For the easter Cross, gather flowers and plants from around your yard



Walk or bike somewhere instead of driving



Support the circular economy by buying used, repair instead of replace, or donate items you no longer use



Reconnect with nature by taking a hike, going birding, or start a nature journal



Visit the Sardis Prayer Garden after church on Sunday

All Glory, Laud, and Honor 196

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re-deem-er, King,

Fine

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho-san-nas ring!


1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 2 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
 3 To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 4 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

to Refrain

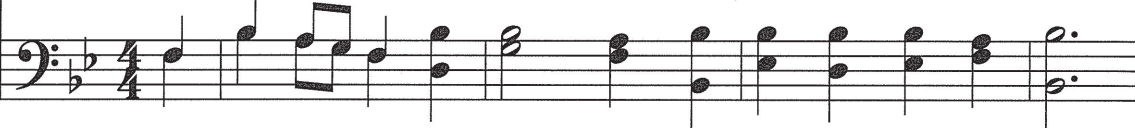

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One.
 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
 to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra-cious King!

These stanzas for Palm Sunday have been selected and translated from a much longer Latin poem written by a bishop who was the leading theologian in Charlemagne's court. They are sung to a 17th-century German chorale, as adapted for these words in the mid-19th century.



197 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna





1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil-dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an-cient song we sing,


through pil - lared court and tem - ple the joy - ful an - them rang.
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant-ing clear and loud;
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heaven, our King.

To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,
 the Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid-ding wait.
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.



The opening two stanzas narrate the first Palm Sunday in the past tense, but the third stanza shifts to the present tense to emphasize what current singers do and believe. The repeated elements in this anonymous German tune suggest the repetitive patterns in a crowd's chant.

All People That on Earth Do Dwell 385

(Psalm 100)

1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the
 2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our
 3 O en - ter then his gates with praise; ap - proach with
 4 For why? The Lord our God is good; his mer - cy

Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his
 aid he did us make; we are his folk; he
 joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his
 is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times

praise forth tell. Come ye be - fore him and re - joice.
 doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
 name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
 firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

In a pairing that began in 1561, this paraphrase of Psalm 100 by a Scot is set to a tune that a French composer originally created for Psalm 134 in the Genevan Psalter of 1551. They have appeared together in nearly every comprehensive English-language hymnal since then.