

LESSON FROM THE EPISTLES

1 John 3:1-7

SERMON

*Skepticism in the Age of Abstract Truth*

\*HYMN #792

*There is a Balm in Gilead*

African American Spiritual, arranged by Melva Wilson Costen

### ***WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.**

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES, OFFERINGS AND COMMITMENTS

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

Video by Kings Return

\*RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING #607

*Trinitarian Doxology*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### ***SENDING***

\*HYMN #740 (2x)

*Lead me, Guide Me*

*Doris Akers*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

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Today's liturgy was written by the Rev. Dr. Eric Douglass, Covenant Pastor for Adult Education at New Hanover. All copyrighted words/music are covered under CCLI License #401787 or One License A-733402

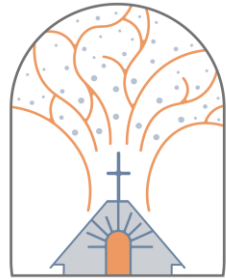


New  
Hanover  
Presbyterian  
Church



New Hanover Presbyterian Church  
is a congregation of  
the Presbyterian Church (USA) and  
the Presbytery of the James.  
We welcome you!





# New Hanover Presbyterian Church

**Our Vision:** Make Jesus Christ's life, death and resurrection relevant today

**Our Mission:** As a welcoming community of believers in Jesus Christ, we will unite our faith and works to share God's love

**Our Values:** Based on our understanding of the Bible, New Hanover Presbyterian Church believes that love, acceptance, inclusion, redemption, reconciliation, mercy and equity are values Jesus Christ taught and demonstrated.

The Lord's Day, February 22, 2026

First Sunday in Lent

❖ = Please stand in body or in spirit · Unison responses are in **bold print**  
Greet each other in the name of Jesus and use this prayer to prepare for worship.

*Lord God, as we prepare for worship,  
we pray that you will quiet our hearts, that we may hear your voice in your Word.  
We pray that you will stir our hearts, that we may more faithfully follow Jesus,  
and that you will be glorified by the praise and prayers we offer you., through Jesus,  
our Lord. Amen.*

## **GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Debbie Blackburn

*Welcome Visitors!*

PRELUDE

Elder Barbara Campbell

Alabaster Box - CeCe Winans

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

The Rev. Anthony Saturno

❖CALL TO WORSHIP

Our Lord has risen to heaven, where he stands with God.

**Are we left alone?**

Jesus has said: "I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

**When we are unfaithful, is He still with us?**

Jesus has said: "I will never leave you or forsake you."

**But how will we know His will for us?**

Jesus has said that "the Spirit of truth... abides with you."

**Will we be able to continue Jesus' work?**

Jesus has said: "The one who believes in me... will do greater works than these."

**We often feel too weak to continue this work.**

Jesus has said that "you will be clothed with power from on high."

**God has provided for us, and we are grateful.**

PRAYER OF ADORATION

❖HYMN #317 (v.1-3)

*There is No East or West*

Adapted and harmonized by Harry T. Burleigh

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Terry Diebold

CONFESSION OF SIN

**Our Lord,**

**We praise you for redeeming us. For while we were yet sinners, You send your Son to meet our needs. You brought us back into your family. You gave us a new birth, as the sons and daughters of God. You gave us community, in the sisters and brothers that sit around us. You blessed us with a new life where we lie down in green pastures and are led beside still waters. For this, we are profoundly grateful. Amen. *(silent prayer)***

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

❖RESPONSE OF PRAISE #604

*Lamb of God*

## **THE WORD**

TIME FOR GOD'S YOUNGER SAINTS

A MINUTE FOR DISCIPLESHIP

Anthony Saturno and Barbara Campbell

*Investing in our Youth*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

LESSON FROM THE GOSPELS

Luke 24:36-49