

## GATHERING

*Welcome, visitors! To learn more about our community, please place a completed Visitor Card in the offering basket. \*Please stand as you are able.*

### Gathering Music

### Greeting and Announcements

### Time of Centering Silence as we welcome the Holy Spirit

### Call to Worship

*from Sanctified Art, Tell me Something Good*

God loves the field mouse.

**God loves the crows that take flight when church bells ring.**

God loves the baby, cooing in the back pew.

**God loves the child who rocks and claps.**

God loves the one with wrinkled hands and soft eyes.

**God loves the bumblebees and the tabby cats.**

God loves those who walk, crawl, and roll.

**God loves the giant oaks and the evergreens,  
standing strong over all of us.**

God loves the young, the impressionable, and the earnest.

**There is no bit of creation that God does not love.**

So let us worship this good-news God! **Amen.**

### \*Hymn #14

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

### \*Prayer of Confession

God said, “When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them.”

**Holy God, we confess, we have mistreated the immigrants in our land.**

Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

**We confess, we have clung to guns and war more than we have pursued peace.**

God said, “When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow.”

**We confess, we have hoarded our resources and failed to care for our neighbors.**

Jesus said, “Let the children come to me, and do not stop them.”

**We confess, we have gatekept the good news in unfair ways.**

### \*Words of Assurance

Fortunately for all of us, God also said, “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine.” **By God’s grace, despite our sin and shortcomings, we are redeemed, claimed, forgiven, and loved.** May this good news change our lives! **Amen.**

### \*Sharing God's Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

## THE WORD

### Prayer for Illumination

Holy One, sometimes the simplest of your commands are the hardest for us to hear. You say, “Love your enemy.” “Turn the other cheek.” “Care for the widow and the orphan.” And we want to know: How? When? Where? Today as we turn to your word, open up space in us to simply hear your truth for what it is. Open up space in our hearts to dream new dreams, to imagine new realities, to draw closer to you and closer to love. With hope for a better tomorrow, we listen, we pray. Amen.

### First Reading

Matthew 19:13-15

### \*Hymn “As Christ Has Welcomed Us”

*[See insert]*

### Stanzas 1, 2 and 3

### Second Reading

Deuteronomy 24:17-22

### Sermon

Reverend Steve Pharr

### Solo “If I Can Help Somebody”

Alma Androzzo; Arr. Geo. L. Zalva

Roger Yow, baritone

### \*Affirmation of Faith

**I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.**

**It sounds like welcome and feels like home.**

**It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy.**

**It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table,**

**so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.**

**I have seen it alive in the world.**

And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage,  
even when mercy feels out of reach,  
I remember the one who welcomed the children  
and led with nonviolence.  
I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable  
and inspired those around him.  
I remember that the good news really is good news,  
for I have seen it alive in the world.  
Thanks be to God! Amen.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Hymnal pg. 35

### THANKSGIVING

Offering

\*Doxology (All singing)

Hymn # 607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below.  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

### SENDING

\*Hymn "As Christ Has Welcomed Us"

[See insert]

Stanzas 4, 5 and 6

\*Benediction

\*Response (All singing) "Amen"

Hymn #574



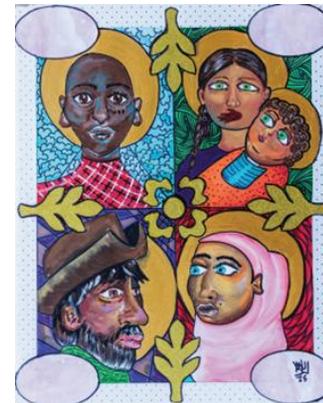
Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org  
Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-701687. All rights reserved.



Sunday, March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

The news is . . . Protection and care for the vulnerable



*Shallowford Presbyterian Church is a welcoming community dedicated to spiritual growth and service to all in the manner of Jesus Christ.*

We are a **Matthew 25, More Light & EarthCare** congregation

office@shallowfordpresbyterian.org - 336.766.3178  
<http://www.shallowfordpresbyterian.org>  
1200 Lewisville-Clemmons Road, Lewisville, NC 27023

### WORSHIP LEADERS

Preaching – Steve Pharr  
Director of Music – Sally Gant  
Lector – Jackie Rountree

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Join us for the final of our **Shallowford Series Concerts on Sunday, March 22, at 3:00 p.m.**, with a program of spectacular music for the flute provided by artists from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts professor Tadeu Coelho. A reception will follow.
- **Good Friday Tenebrae Service – Following Jesus to the Cross - Friday, April 3 | 7:30 p.m.** Join us as we reflect on Jesus' trial, suffering, and burial through scripture, the gradual extinguishing of candles, and the singing of hymns and spirituals. The service concludes with "*Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?*" as we depart in silence and darkness, awaiting the joy of Easter morning. Shallowford's outdoor Labyrinth (weather permitting) and indoor Stations of the Cross will be open for prayer and meditation prior to the service.
- To **sponsor an Easter lily** in honor or memory of a loved one, please sign up on the sheet in the gathering space or contact Christine Ratledge. All orders are due by Monday, March 30. Lilies will be available to take home following the Easter Service on April 5. The cost is \$14.50 per lily.

## THIS WEEK @ SHALLOWFORD

### **Sunday, March 15**

11:30 am ~ Sunday Book Club - Fellowship Hall

### **Monday, March 16**

6:30 pm ~ Stated Session Meeting

### **Wednesday, March 18**

10:00 am ~ Wednesday Morning Bible Study - Zoom

6:30 pm ~ Shallowford Singers Choir Rehearsal

### **Sunday, March 22**

9:30 am ~ Children's Sunday School Class - Fellowship Hall

9:30 am ~ Lectionary Adult Sunday School Class - Parlor

9:45 am ~ Shallowford Singers - Sanctuary

10:30 am ~ Worship Service

11:30 am ~ Sunday Book Club - Fellowship Hall

3:00 pm ~ Shallowford Concert Series

## As Christ Has Welcomed Us

Ruth Duck, 2005

WAITING

Don Cason, 1986



1. As Christ has wel - comed us, we wel - come
2. Since Christ has of - fered us the rich - es
3. Our chil - dren lead the way with wel - come
4. Our door is o - pen wide; our hands reach
5. O Spir - it, shape our life that all may
6. When we are called to part, O, Spir - it,



- one and all. To love, O God, as  
of your grace, so may we tru - ly  
full and free. They show us how to  
out in care, to - geth - er lift - ing  
take their part, that we may lis - ten,  
guide us still to love the world with



- you have loved: This is our gos - pel call.  
wel - come all of ev - 'ry age and race.  
sing your song and live in har - mo - ny.  
joys and tears to you, O God, in prayer.  
speak with care with o - pen minds and hearts.  
o - pen hearts, to do your right - eous will.

Words: Ruth Duck © 2005 GIA Publications. Music: Don Cason, © 1986. Word Music, L.L.  
Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701687. All rights reserved.

# As Christ Has Welcomed Us

Ruth Duck, 2005

WAITING

Don Cason, 1986



1. As Christ has wel - comed us, we wel - come
2. Since Christ has of - fered us the rich - es
3. Our chil - dren lead the way with wel - come
4. Our door is o - pen wide; our hands reach
5. O Spir - it, shape our life that all may
6. When we are called to part, O, Spir - it,



one and all. To love, O God, as  
of your grace, so may we tru - ly  
full and free. They show us how to  
out in care, to - geth - er lift - ing  
take their part, that we may lis - ten,  
guide us still to love the world with



you have loved: This is our gos - pel call.  
wel - come all of ev - 'ry age and race.  
sing your song and live in har - mo - ny.  
joys and tears to you, O God, in prayer.  
speak with care with o - pen minds and hearts.  
o - pen hearts, to do your right - eous will.