

The Reverend Bob Farrow, Priest in Charge
Kevin Anderson, Music Director

The 18th Sunday After Pentecost

September 27, 2026

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Please be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent, for this is a house of prayer for all people.

PRELUDE

All stand as able and sing.

PROCESSIONAL | Hymnal 450
vv. 1-3, 6

All hail the power of Jesus' Name
Coronation

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the reading of the lessons.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON | Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Lector: A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel.

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM | Psalm 25:1-8

The Psalm will be chanted by Kevin Anderson. You're welcome to join in. If you don't read music, the note changes on the italicized words.



© 1956. Jerome Webster Meachen

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in *you*; * let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over *me*.

2 Let none who look to you be put to *shame*; * let the treacherous be disappointed in their *schemes*.

3 Show me your ways, O *Lord*, * and teach me your *paths*.

4 Lead me in your truth and teach *me*, * for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day *long*.

5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and *love*, * for they are from *everlasting*.

6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my *transgressions*; * remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O *Lord*.

7 Gracious and upright is the *Lord*; * therefore he teaches sinners in his *way*.

8 He guides the humble in doing *right* * and teaches his way to the *lowly*.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE EPISTLE | Philippians 2:1-13

Lector: A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as able and sing.

SEQUENCE HYMN | Hymnal 343

Shepherd O souls, refresh and bless
St. Agnes

THE GOSPEL | Matthew 21:23-32

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Please be seated for the sermon.

THE SERMON

Rev. Bob Farrow

All stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power
of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was
made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death
and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the
Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
for the 18th Sunday After Pentecost

From *Hear Our Prayer: Prayers of the
People for the Revised Common Lectionary*

*Please kneel or stand as you are able. The Intercessor and People pray
responsively.*

Almighty God, you looked upon your people and heard their cries, hear us again and answer us as we pray, “Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.”

Awaken your church that it might boldly proclaim Christ’s good news and continue Christ’s mission and ministry throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Guide our nation and those in authority that ours might be a land, not just of promise, but of fulfillment, dignity, and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Open our eyes to all the opportunities to be your voice and your hands in our local communities so that no needs go unmet. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Grant us strength, commitment, and perseverance to meet the challenges of our day and to build a sustainable society rooted in our vision of the kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Grant your mercy on the members of our diocesan family currently held in immigration detention and their families, and on the children held in detention across our nation. We pray for their release and for the restoration of humane and ethical immigration enforcement. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bring healing to all who suffer and mend what is broken or wounded in our lives and in the lives of those we love and care for. Especially we pray for Renner, Linda, Nonie, Michael, David, and Hollis. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Embrace the dead in your loving arms, grant peace to all who mourn or grieve, and fulfill your promise to us that we might rise again in your new age. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

We cannot know your full glory, and yet you have shown us again and again, inviting us into ever-deepening relationship as your people. Continue to lead us and to answer our prayer as may be best for us and always to your glory. Through Christ our Lord who with you and the Holy Spirit stands supreme throughout creation and beyond, now and always. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Together

Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

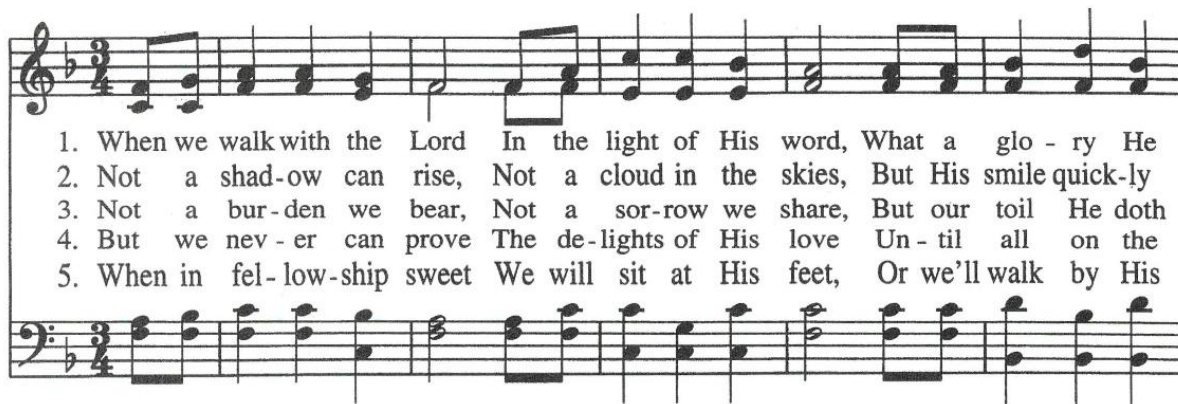
Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**

HOLY COMMUNION

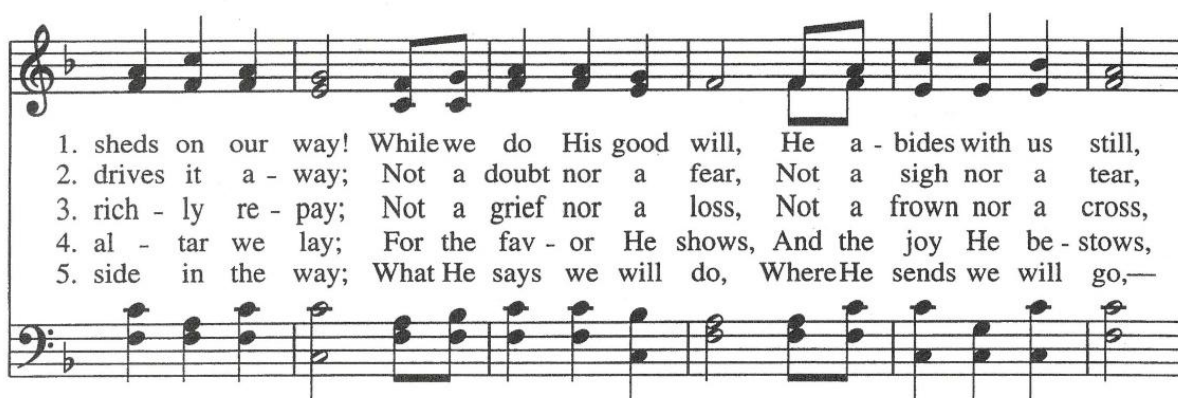
ANNOUNCEMENTS & CELEBRATIONS

OFFERTORY HYMN

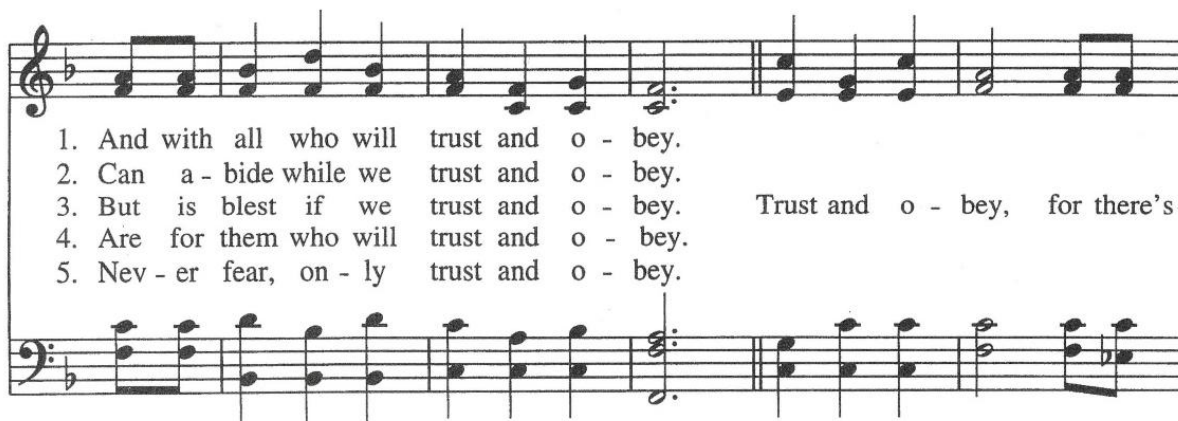
Trust and Obey from Lift Every Voice And Sing Hymnal II



1. When we walk with the Lord In the light of His word, What a glo - ry He
 2. Not a shad-ow can rise, Not a cloud in the skies, But His smile quick-ly
 3. Not a bur-den we bear, Not a sor-row we share, But our toil He doth
 4. But we nev - er can prove The de-lights of His love Un - til all on the
 5. When in fel-low-ship sweet We will sit at His feet, Or we'll walk by His



1. sheds on our way! While we do His good will, He a - bides with us still,
 2. drives it a - way; Not a doubt nor a fear, Not a sigh nor a tear,
 3. rich - ly re - pay; Not a grief nor a loss, Not a frown nor a cross,
 4. al - tar we lay; For the fav - or He shows, And the joy He be - stows,
 5. side in the way; What He says we will do, Where He sends we will go,—



1. And with all who will trust and o - bey.
 2. Can a - bide while we trust and o - bey.
 3. But is blest if we trust and o - bey. Trust and o - bey, for there's
 4. Are for them who will trust and o - bey.
 5. Nev - er fear, on - ly trust and o - bey.



no oth - er way To be hap - py in Je - sus, But to trust and o - bey.

THE DOXOLOGY

| *Old 100th*

Please stand as you are able for the presentation of the offering.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS | Holy, holy, holy Lord

See next page

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

The people stand or kneel as able.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Together

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal S 169

Cantor or Choir

My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -

1 All 2 *Cantor or Choir*

deed, says the Lord. My Lord. Those who eat my

flesh and drink my blood dwell in me, and I in them. My

flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

Setting: Ray W. Urwin (b. 1950)

THE SHARING OF BREAD AND WINE

Celebrant:

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All people are invited to receive Communion. The ushers will come stand by your pew, at which time you may go kneel or stand at the railing. If you do not wish to receive, please cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing. If you have mobility challenges and need communion brought to you at your seat, please let an usher know. Gluten-free wafers are available.

COMMUNION HYMN

Just When I Need Him

The hymn will be performed by Kevin Anderson.

BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

RECESSIONAL

Hymnal 686

Come, thou fount of every blessing
Nettleton

DISMISSAL

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

**Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the Gathering Room,
to the left as you exit the nave.**

St. Nicholas' mission is to actively share Christ's love for all people.

*Our vision is to strive to be a welcoming community who worships a caring
and merciful God, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and
love.*

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Your prayers are asked for Renner Loney, Linda Wilson-Sterling at Christian Valley Church, Nonie Bueche, Michael Davis, David Mullins, and Hollis Hale. Continuing prayers and loving thoughts for those who have ongoing needs and struggles: Liz Dixon, Hudson Garrett, and Mary Butcher.

We pray for wisdom for those in authority, for guidance for those who feel called to action, and for safety and peace for those who feel fear in these times. We continue to pray for all those in need within our community and those in the world who have suffered due to war and natural disaster.

VESTRY

Drucye Cox, *Senior Warden*
Linda Pace, *Junior Warden*
Sheri Cody, Kathy McMurtry,
and Steve Morse

SERVING THIS WEEK

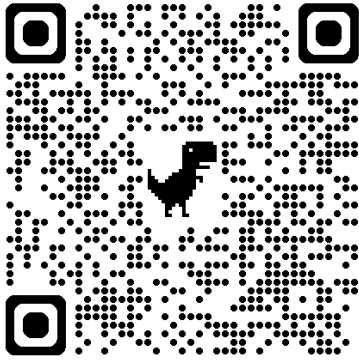
Lector: Alex Garrett
Ushers: Jim Gilliam & Alex Garrett
Virtual Ministers: Bob & Judy McCracken
Eucharistic Minister: Connie Blackmon
Crucifer: Riley-Ann Johnson
Flowers: Beth Brown

UPCOMING IN THE PARISH

SEP 23-29: Erin Vacation (office closed)
OCT 4: 1st Sunday Brunch
Blessing of the Animals (5:00 p.m. at St. Nicholas)
OCT 17: Low Country Boil
OCT 22: Harris County Trunk-or-Treat

OCTOBER's **1st Sunday Brunch** does not have a host. Grab a friend and sign up in the narthex!

The St. Nicholas Book Club has chosen Alison Larkin's *The People We Keep* for their next selection. See your newsletter for more! The book club meets on the first Wednesday of the month after Evening Prayer at 5:00 p.m.



Get all the news: Use this QR code to go to the most recent newsletter!



Blessing of the Animals

69 MOBLEY ROAD • HAMILTON, GA

OCTOBER 4, 2026

5:00 P.M.

LOW COUNTRY

LET THE GOOD TIMES



*Let the Good Times Boil
at St. Nicholas Church!*

**Good food. Live music. Family fun.
And the warmth of community spirit.**

Join us as we share stories, make new
friends, and come together to raise
funds for St. Nicholas!

\$65 per adult.

Low Country Boil Buffet Dinner

Saturday, October 17
St. Nicholas Episcopal Church (outdoors)
69 Mobley Road, Hamilton

5:00 Family Fun & Fellowship
Games for kids and big kids!
Live Music with Lee Daniel
50/50 Raffle

6:00 Dinner catered by Chef Chris
of J's Catch Market & Grill

Traditional Low Country Boil

Shrimp, Sausage, Corn on the Cob, and Seasoned Potatoes
or Pork Tenderloin, Corn on the Cob, and Seasoned Potatoes
Fresh, warm Beignets for dessert!
Tea and Lemonade. Cash bar.

\$5 Kids Plate: Hot dog, Chips, Fruit and Ice Cream



Make your reservations online
at www.stnicholashamilton.org
or by phone: 706-587-3243

Reservation deadline: October 12