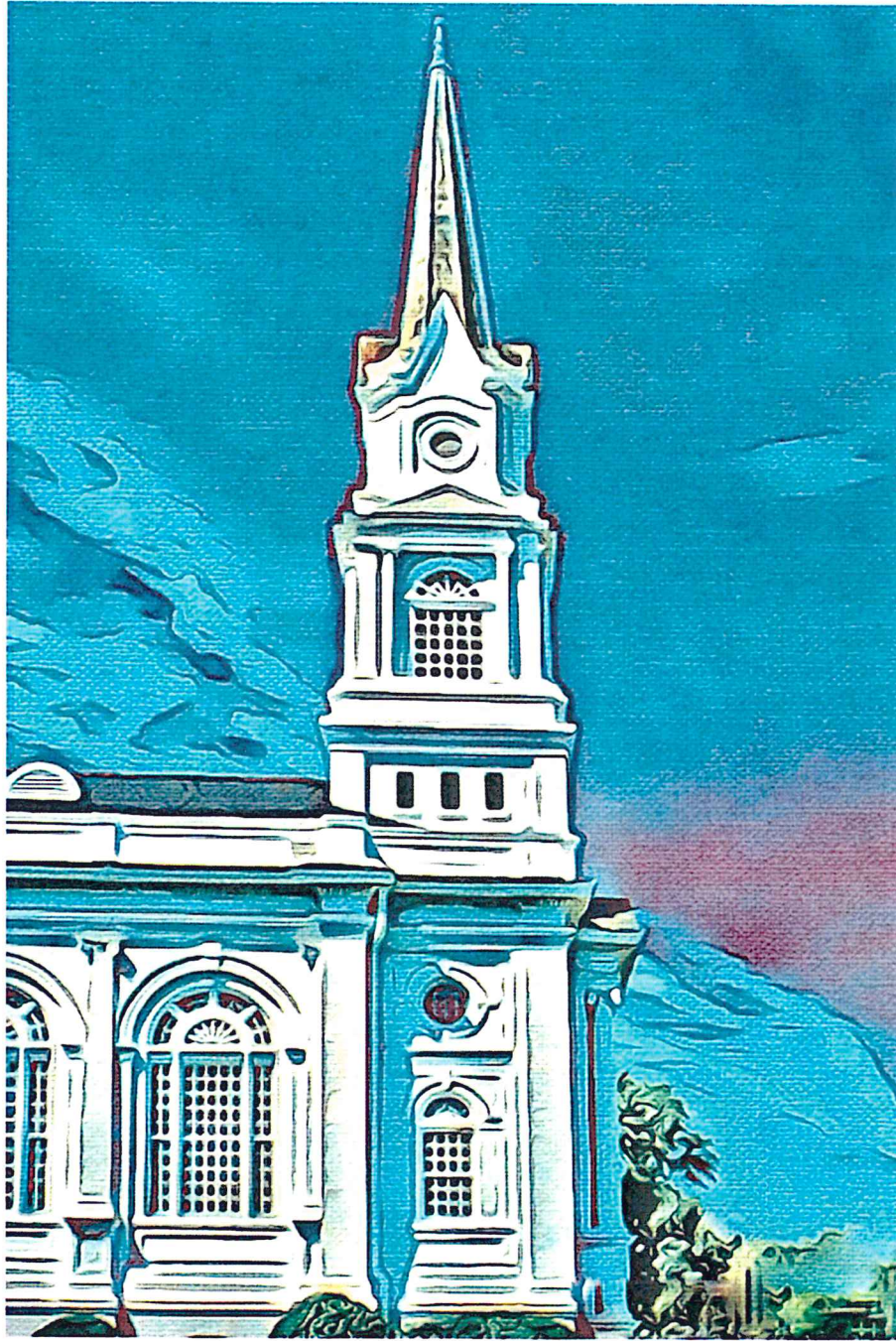


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



May 22, 2022

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus)

Arr. by Lani Smith

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME

Whit Shaw

*** PROCESSIONAL**

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

NATIONAL HYMN

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Give praise to the Lord, call on his name.

People: **Make known among the nations what God has done.**

Leader: Sing to the Lord, all the earth; tell of God's wonderful acts.

People: **Glory in his name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.**

Leader: Look to the Lord and be sustained by his strength;

Come into God's presence with thanksgiving.

People: **Rejoice in the Lord always!**

*** HYMN 69**

Here I Am, Lord

HERE I AM

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you are our refuge and strength and a very present help in time of trouble. Enable us, we pray, to put our trust in you. Help us now to wait upon you with reverent and submissive hearts. We are the ones who have failed to live out our commitments to our God and have acted for our own benefit at nearly every turn. Forgive us. Give us a new beginning. In the silence of this hour speak to us of eternal things, that through the patience and comfort of the scriptures we may have hope and be lifted into the light and peace of your presence. We bring to you our poor decisions, our partial truths, and our deep disappointments. Hear our prayers, O Lord.

(Silence for Personal Confession)

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life for all who believe. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Friends, by God's mercy we have forgiveness and new life.

People: **Thanks be to God for the renewal of life and faith by grace upon grace. Amen.**

*** GLORIA PATRI**

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.

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Bob Brearley

Following the Children's Moment, children preschool through 2nd grade are invited to Children in Worship. Parents can pick up their children from the third floor after worship.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 67

Cameron Coulter

(Pew Bible, pg. 529, Old Testament)

NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 14:1-14

Rev. Bob Brearley

(Pew Bible, pg. 108, New Testament)

SERMON

"The Gospel Truth"

Rev. Bob Brearley

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day, He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

RECOGNITION AND BLESSING OF 2022 GRADUATES

Ansley Elizabeth Blanding
William Walker Cooper
William Hodge Croft, Jr.
Ivey Elizabeth Edwards
Elizabeth Carter Foley

Carlie Gaines Fort
John Duncan James
Brice Edmund Leasure
Hayden Thomas Lyons
Jane Elliott Spencer

Congregation: We offer you this blanket as a symbol of the continuing embrace of your parents, the unwavering care and support of this congregation, and the steadfast love of Christ. You will always have a place to call home right here at First Presbyterian Church.

INVITATION TO PRAYER (Remain seated) (Sing twice)

SHEPHERD ME

*Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
Beyond my fears, from death into life.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Call to Giving

Offertory Anthem

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song Arr. by Zebulon M. Highben
Chancel Choir with Lauren Decker, Violin
*Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;
I'll tell everybody about you wherever I go:
You alone are our life and our peace and our love.
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.*

*** Doxology**

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*** Offertory Prayer**

*** HYMN 700**

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

I'M GONNA LIVE

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*** BENEDICTION**

*** CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

I'M GONNA LIVE

*I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Celebrate Life

Buryl Red

*** Please stand as you are able**

All music is used with permission: OneLicense.net#A-711301.

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

Crucifer: Sumter Cooper

Beadle: Wayne Hagon

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God in celebration of the wedding of Elizabeth Hayley Smoak and Nicholas Ware Gibbons and in loving memory of their family members: Mrs. Frances Lee Bradley, Mr. Stephen Tucker Belangia and Mr. and Mrs. James Herbert Smoak

WELCOME!

We especially welcome those of you who are guests today. We invite you to fill out a Welcome card found in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate as it is passed. We look forward to meeting you. If you have particular questions, please speak to Rev. Brearley.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Elders: Whit Shaw, Dan Spencer

Assisting in Worship: Whit Shaw

Deacons: Chris Somheil, Lark Haynie

Youth Liturgist: Nicholas White

Junior Usher: Richard White

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: John Dunn, Glenn Woodrum

Assisting in Worship: John Dunn

Deacons: John Michael Osteen, Colin Davis

Youth Liturgist: Woods Blanding

Junior Usher: Charlie Coulter

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called a congregational meeting during worship this morning to elect church officers and four at-large members (Gloria Coker, Billy Coulter, JD Dunn, Kay Smith) to serve on the next Congregational Nominating Committee.

YOUTH END-OF-YEAR SWIM PARTY

There will be an end-of-year swim party for middle and high school youth today from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. at the home of Kathy and Bill Lyons (494 Chippewa). Burgers will be provided; please bring a side dish.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

5:30 – 7:15 p.m.

June 8 ~ June 29

Beginning June 8 and running through June 29, we will have “Wonderful Wednesdays.” This will be a four week long, Wednesday evening church wide program during the month of June. Dinners will be provided. Following dinner, there will be Bible classes led by Rev. Bob for the teens and adults as well as fun themed lessons and activities for the kids.

It is very important that we know how many to plan for; please make reservations by calling the church office (803-773-3814) no later than the Monday of the week you and your family plan to attend.

- Wednesday, June 8 - Faithful Footsteps and Fun Sundaes
- Wednesday, June 15 - Music, Movement, and Moon Pies
- Wednesday, June 22 - Growing in Grace and Garden Goody
- Wednesday, June 28 - Be Nice and Kona Ice

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prisma Health Tuomey: Keith Griffin

Covenant Place: Jennie Linn Duffie

Home: Chuck Fienning, Caroline Sigmon, Julian Moore, Carolita Cantrell, Harold Gadson,
Bill Scobee, Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Kimberly White on the death of her grandmother, Ruby Nichols, who died May 18.

NOMINEES FOR OFFICE OF DEACON ~ CLASS OF 2025

VIRGINIA HUTCHENS – Virginia is a registered nurse at Prisma Health Tuomey. She has previously served on the Hospitality Committee, Sunday School teacher and a volunteer with the Faithful Families children's programs. She is a member of Circle 6 and serves as a volunteer with Children in Worship, and the Cinderella Project.

DEBBIE JACKSON – Debbie retired from Sumter School District #17 where she was an English teacher and CRT at Bates Middle School. She is currently a member of Circle #1, Moderator of Presbyterian Women, and volunteers with Sumter United Ministries, Backpack Ministries and the Cinderella Project. Debbie and her husband, Joe, have two grown daughters.

VALERIE JAMES – Valerie teaches preschool at Wilson Hall and previously taught at First Presbyterian Preschool. She previously served as Deacon, Sunday School teacher, and VBS Chair/Co-Chair/Volunteer. Valerie and her husband, John, have one son.

HAROLD NIXON – Harold is the founder of XDOS, Inc. He has previously served as Deacon and Chairman of Presbyterian Men. Harold and his wife, Faye, have two grown children and two grandchildren.

SUSAN W. OSTEN – Susan is a real estate agent with Advantage Realty/Gainey Construction. She has previously served as Deacon, Sunday school teacher for elementary and middle school and is a member of the Women's Sunday School Class. She serves as a committee chair for Mary and Martha and a member of the Sunday Morning Hospitality Committee. Susan and her husband, Kyle, have a daughter and a son.

NOMINEE FOR OFFICE OF DEACON ~ CLASS OF 2023

PAUL HERRMANN – Paul is retired from the U.S. Air Force where he served as a Pilot and Staff Officer. He was also a Computer Science Instructor at USC-Sumter. He has previously served as a Deacon and Elder and is a leader of the Discovery Sunday School Class. Paul and his wife, Chris, have two grown children, a daughter and a son.

NOMINEES FOR OFFICE OF ELDER ~ CLASS OF 2025

NORMA ABBOTT – Norma has previously served as Deacon, Elder, Chair of the Christian Education Committee, Sunday School teacher and youth group leader. She is also a recipient of the Presbyterian Women Life Membership Award. She currently serves as Circle chair, member of the Joy Ringers Handbell Choir and church office volunteer. Norma and her husband, Phillip, have a grown daughter and son and five grandchildren.

BONNIE DISNEY – Bonnie is retired from Sumter School District #17 where she was a teacher at Sumter High School. She previously served as a Deacon and is a member of the Foreign Missions Committee and has traveled on several mission trips to Peru and Costa Rica. Bonnie and her husband, Vern, have five grown children and eighteen grandchildren.

JOHN JACKSON – John is a partner/architect with Jackson and Sims, Architects. He has previously served as Moderator of the Diaconate, Elder, Chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee and Chair of the Pastor Nominating Committee in 2015. He is a member of the Chancel Choir. John and his wife, Beth, have one grown daughter.

JOHN JAMES – John is President of Power Line Clearing Contractors, Inc. He has previously served as Deacon and Elder. He is a Stephen Leader, President and teacher for the Fraser-Edmunds Sunday School Class and teacher for the Bethany Sunday School Class. John and his wife, Valerie, have one son.

WILLIAM RICHARDSON – Bill is retired from the U.S. Air Force. He has previously served as Elder, Chair of the Foreign Missions Committee, and Chair of the Congregational Retreat. He teaches Sunday School for the Friendship, Harmony, Fraser-Edmunds and Bethany Classes. Bill and his wife, Linn, have two grown children: a daughter and a son.

NOMINEE FOR TRUSTEE ~ CLASS OF 2025

KENNETH YOUNG, JR. – Ken is an attorney with Young & Warr LLC. He has previously served as Deacon, Elder, and Clerk of Session. He teaches Sunday School. Ken and his wife, Sharon, have two grown children: a son and a daughter.