

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



July 23, 2023

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Andante Amabile

Alexander Ilyinsky

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME

Margy Carpenter

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Be still and know that God is here.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

People: We are ready to pray and think and rejoice.

We are ready to hear God's word.

Leader: Then listen and respond to God, who meets us in new ways and in different sounds, today in worship, and every day in the world.

People: Come to us, O God, and guide our worship. Speak to us the Word we need, and let that Word change us and empower us to be your people.

Leader: With joy we lift our voices to the Lord!

*** HYMN OF PRAISE 363**

Rejoice, the Lord is King!

DARWALL'S 148TH

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Author of life, we humbly confess that too often we fall short of your intentions for us and of our expectations of ourselves. We would touch the world with goodness, but often we withdraw in anxiety and self-concern. We would live with integrity and stand for truth, but we are torn with uncertainties. We would warm the lives of others with our love, but we hesitate, wondering if they will love us in return. We would go about our daily tasks with confidence and joy, but find ourselves struggling with self-doubt. We need your presence, O God, if we are to be what we could be and want to be. Let our worship heal us, renew us, strengthen us, that we may go out in joy and be led forth in peace.

(Silent Reflection)

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the good news about our God: we are held by a love that we have done nothing to earn, a love that will not let us go. Friends, in Jesus Christ we have forgiveness and new life.

People: Thanks be to God! May our lives be a constant response to such amazing grace.

*** 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

Jesus Loves Me!

Rev. Bob Brearley

Following the Children's Moment, children will stay with their parents.

Children in Worship will not meet again until September.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 86:1-12

Margy Carpenter

(Pew Bible, pg. 544, Old Testament)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 6:5-15

Rev. Bob Brearley

(Pew Bible, pg. 5, New Testament)

SERMON

"The Prayer Jesus Taught Us"

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.

*** HYMN 175**

Seek Ye First

LAFFERTY

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

The Lord's Prayer

Albert Hay Malotte

Kara Grover, Soprano Solo

*** 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 435**

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE

BENEDICTION

*** CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 543**

GREEN TYLER

*God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me: O Christ, surround me.*

*** CLOSING VOLUNTARY**

Trompette di Marcate

Arcangelo Corelli

*** Please stand as you are able**

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The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God in celebration of Jim and Eleanor Beard's 72nd wedding anniversary on July 22.

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.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Elders: Jim Alexander, Margy Carpenter
Assisting with Worship: Margy Carpenter
Deacons: Virginia Hutchens, Jimmy Ezell

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: Liza Cooper, Bonnie Disney
Assisting with Worship: Bonnie Disney
Deacons: Debbie Jackson, Susan W. Osteen

NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 30

Dr. Chris Denny, son of Charles and Glenda Denny, will be with us to preach next Sunday, July 30. He grew up in First Presbyterian Church. Chris is a graduate of Presbyterian College and Columbia Theological Seminary. He has been Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Columbia, South Carolina since 2016. You will have an opportunity to visit with him at a reception in the Fellowship Hall following worship.

We will have a special blessing of educators during worship next Sunday. All teachers, administrators and school staff for public and private schools are invited to attend.



GEAR UP FOR LEARNING

School is beginning early this year – August 3! Because of this, Sumter United Ministries is asking for the spiral notebooks to be turned in by July 26. Please feel free to call the church office (803-773-3814) and we will be happy to come to your car to get them so you won't even have to get out of your car. We appreciate your help in reaching our goal of 1650 college ruled spiral notebooks.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Faith Formation and Fellowship is looking for volunteers to teach Sunday School and Children in Worship starting September 10th. Volunteers are also needed (no teaching) to assist these teachers. Lesson plans will be provided. Please consider volunteering for these important ways to help our children grow in their Bible journey. Please contact Debbie Jackson if you are able to help!

BI-CENTENNIAL FUND

During this Bi-Centennial Year, the Session has approved a gift to Habitat for Humanity and Sumter United Ministries. Our special fund-raising goal is \$200,000, half of which will come from one-time gifts from our congregation. The other half, \$100,000, will come from matching funds from our church's local mission reserves. Please prayerfully consider a gift. Thank you.

ONLINE GIVING

Online giving can be accessed from the FPC website, fpcsumter.org (press the red "Give" button), also from your mobile device (text FPCS to 73256). Follow the online instructions. You can also give online by using the QR code and your smartphone. Just hover over the QR code with the camera or scanner on your smartphone or tablet and click on the link that appears.



JOYS AND CONCERNS

San Antonio, Texas: Benjamin Safford (Grandson of Ginny & John Safford)

Home: John Michael Osteen, Marilyn Jenkins