

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



August 6, 2023

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Blessing

Douglas E. Wagner

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME

John James

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: God calls us away from the tumult of the world,
that we may focus our thoughts on the things that are lasting.

People: In God's presence we see our lives more clearly;
the broken pieces are put back together.

Leader: God calls us out of loneliness into a life of community.

People: Worshiping together, caring about one another,
we find out what it means to be truly human.

Leader: But God will send us back into the world's confusion and busyness,
its brokenness and isolation.

People: We will go with serenity and joy, strengthened to be God's servants,
the bearers of peace.

Leader: We have gathered to worship God and to trust that God's grace is sufficient for every need.

*** HYMN OF PRAISE 667**

When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Wise and powerful God, you have given us your light and truth to guide us through confusion, yet we have relied instead on our human wisdom and have lost our way. Yet you, O Lord, give us nourishment for the journey and lead us in the paths of righteousness. Forgive our foolish ways. Bring us back into your presence and overcome our separation from you and from one another. By your Word and Spirit, fill us with the gifts that equip us to meet life's demands, that we may be your people in the world and live in confidence and joy. Author of all healing, we bring to you our brokenness and our sins.

(Silent Reflection)

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry."
This is the good news of our God: In Jesus Christ we are redeemed, we are forgiven.

People: God's mercy sustains us on the journey of life and faith. Thanks be to God!

*** 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. Mary Ramirez

*Following the Children's Moment, children will stay with their parents.
Children in Worship will not meet again until September.*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 145:1-9
(Pew Bible, pg. 581, Old Testament)

John James

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 14:13-21
(Pew Bible, pg. 16, New Testament)

Rev. Mary Ramirez

SERMON

Rev. Mary Ramirez

*** 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 516 (V. 1-2)**

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

KINGDOM

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

I Will Rejoice

G. P. Telemann

Chancel Choir

*** 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 353**

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

SOLID ROCK

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**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Gordon Young

*** Please stand as you are able**

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We welcome Rev. Mary McCutchen Ramirez to our pulpit this morning. She grew up in Manning and is a graduate of Columbia Theological Seminary. She has served as a tent maker pastor for over 20 years. She works for the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control.

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: Linda Hogon, John James
Assisting with Worship: John James
Deacons: Harold Nixon, Lark Haynie

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: Kimberly Land, Glenn Woodrum
Assisting with Worship: Glenn Woodrum
Deacons: JD Dunn, Kenny Jordan



ATTENTION ALL SINGERS!

Chancel Choir rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, August 16 from 6-7:30 PM. Fellowship time will follow. We sing a variety of music and share a committed desire to serve and glorify God through song. New members are always welcome, and no audition is necessary.

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

Home: John Michael Osteen, Marilyn Jenkins