

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



January 1, 2023

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Pastorale
Joy to the World
Connor Thames

David Schack
Traditional

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME

John James

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: A bright new year reminds us of God's promise: there shall be a new heaven and a new earth.

People: Praise God, who is Alpha and Omega. Praise God, who surrounds our life with good.

Leader: This time of celebrating new possibilities recalls for us the blessings we have received.

People: This day of renewed commitment offers hope for we know that our God will journey with us.

Leader: Praise God for steadfast love and mercy. Praise God for new beginnings. Let us worship God.

*** HYMN OF PRAISE 143**

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, we bow before you with grateful hearts. You sent Jesus among us as the light of the world to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy. Cleanse us of our sin and baptize us once again with your Spirit. We thank you, O Lord, for every new year, every new day as we seek to be faithful. Forgiven and renewed, may we show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Hear prayers as we bring our needs and our burdens to you.

(Silent Reflection)

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. The peace of the Lord be with you in this new year and always!

People: Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving be to our God forever and ever. Amen.

*** GLORIA PATRI**

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Jesus Loves Me!

Rev. Mary McCutchen Ramirez

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 LESSON

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
(Pew Bible, pg. 533, Old Testament)

John James

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12
(Pew Bible, pg. 2, New Testament)

Rev. Mary McCutchen Ramirez

SERMON

"Road Trip"

Rev. Mary McCutchen 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 150**

As with Gladness of Men of Old

DIX

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

Surely the Presence of the Lord Is In This Place

Lanny Wolfe

Denise Lynch, piano solo

*** Doxology**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***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.

*** Offertory Prayer & Benediction**

*** HYMN 744 (V. 1-3)**

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

FESTAL SONG

*** CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

FESTAL SONG

***Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;
Show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.***

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

We Three Kings

Arr. by Diane Bish

*** Please stand as you are able**

Surely the Presence of the Lord Is In This Place is used with permission: CCLI #3077058.

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

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. If you have particular questions, please speak to Rev. Brearley.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Elders: John James, Glenn Woodrum
Assisting with Worship: John James
Deacons: Valerie James, Lark Haynie
Junior Ushers: Mary Taylor Moorman, Murrell Smith

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: Bill Richardson, Dan Spencer
Assisting with Worship: Bill Richardson
Deacons: Colin Davis, John Michael Osteen
Youth Liturgist: Madelynn Davis
Junior Ushers: Millie Davis, Richard Dwight

CHILI COOK-OFF

Sunday, January 22

5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Cooks and chili connoisseurs are needed! Please contact Linda Hogon or Debbie Jackson to enter your chili in the Cook-Off. Everyone is encouraged to come enjoy conversation and friendly competition. Also, please Linda or Debbie know if you would prefer to bring cornbread or a dessert. A small donation of \$1 for tasting and \$3/bowl will guarantee a tasty meal as well as good fellowship!

PASTORAL CARE

Session has approved the formation of a new "Pastoral Care" group. This will be an informal group of members that will assist the pastor and Prayer and Care by providing extra care to our members in need. Care may be in the form of visits, letters, delivering casseroles, etc, and will be on a volunteer basis only. No formal meetings will be held. Please contact Missy Coulter if interested at coultervm@aol.com.

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: Milo Abbott (Grandson of Norma Abbott), Wanda Casker,
Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)