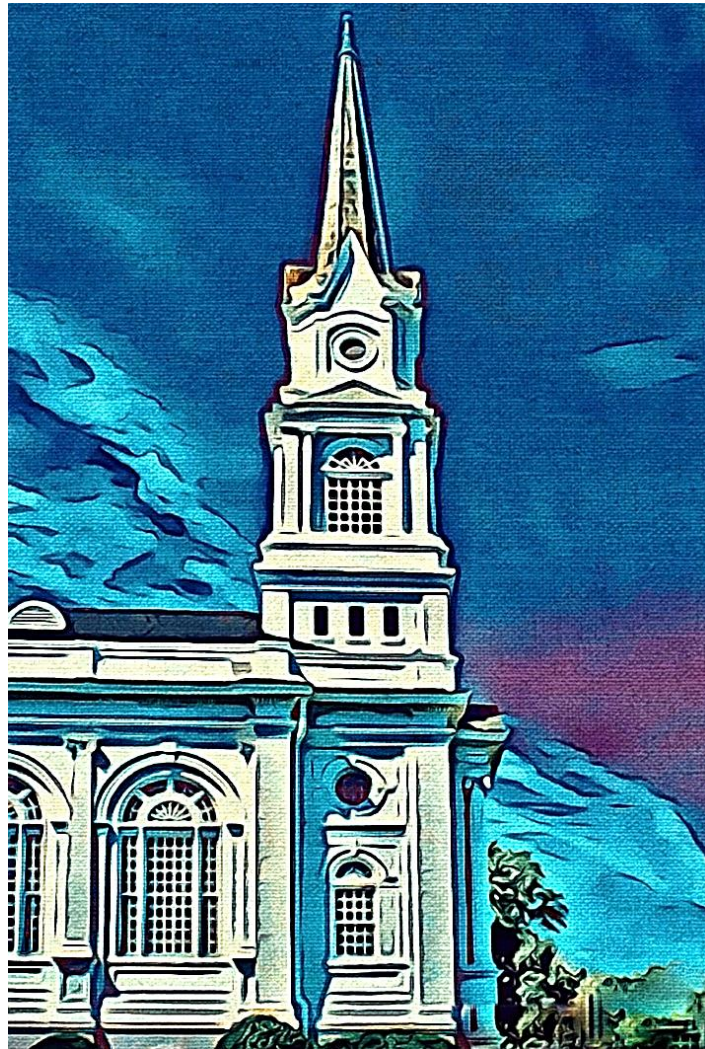


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



January 2, 2022

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Pastorale

Away in a Manger and Silent Night

Colton Thames, Piano Solo

David Schack

Traditional

WELCOME

Jack Osteen

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God's gracious mercy is the foundation of our adoption.

People: God has chosen us through Christ Jesus.

Leader: God offers us salvation and forgiveness.

People: God gives us redemption through Christ Jesus.

Leader: God provides reconciliation to the children of the earth.

People: God's gifts are shared with us through the love of Christ Jesus.

All: The Holy Spirit has breathed upon us and we are bound as the people of God through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

* HYMN OF PRAISE 143

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are challenged to accept God's claim on our lives. Loving our neighbors and ourselves feels like an impossible task. We fight over polity, policy, and ideologies that draw us away from our commonalities as siblings in your gracious love. Caught up in our differences we fail to embrace the grace you provide for all of us. Tearing down is so much easier than building up. Help us to set aside our divisions, destruction, and distrust to focus on our common bond of acceptance through Jesus. Help us to step out of the shadows and embrace the Light of your Word shared with us by your Son. *(Silent Reflection)*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Sing Twice)

LOE DI ÍSÁ

Jesus knows the inmost heart: nothing can be hidden.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The teachings of Jesus are the road map to our salvation, we have only to follow the path. God's love is filled with mercy and grace, we have only to accept it into our hearts. The Holy Spirit dwells among us providing support, we have only to open ourselves. Hear and receive the good news, through Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

* GLORIA PATRI

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Kelly Hickey

Children will remain seated with their parents this morning for the Children's Moment.

Children In Worship will not meet this morning.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalms 147:12-20

Madison White

(Pew Bible, pg. 582, Old Testament)

NEWS TESTAMENT READING

John 1:1-18

Rev. Mary McCutchen Ramirez

(Pew Bible, pg. 91, New Testament)

SERMON

"What to Expect"

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Call to Giving

- * Offertory Anthem *Greensleeves to a Ground* Traditional
(*What Child Is This*)
Emmett Anglin, Recorder

- * 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. Alleluia.

- * Offertory Prayer & Benediction

- * **HYMN** 744 *Arise, Your Light Is Come!* FESTAL SONG

BENEDICTION

- * **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 *Glory to God in the Highest* Arr. by Diane Bish

* **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 basket as you leave. We look forward to meeting you. If you have particular questions, please speak to Rev. Long.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Elders: Jack Osteen, Whit Shaw
Deacons: Matthew Berger, Gary Bratton
Youth Liturgist: Madison White
Junior Usher: Charlie Coulter

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: Dan Spencer, Kay Smith
Deacons: Charlie White, Kimberly Land
Youth Liturgist: Ellis Coker
Junior Usher: Stuart Ward

*You are invited
to a Reception to Welcome
Our New Interim Pastor
Reverend Bob Brearley*

*January 9, 2022
In the Fellowship Hall
Immediately following
Morning Worship*

The Council of Presbyterian Women will meet tomorrow, at 10:00 a.m. in the McLaurin Room.

Circles will meet as follows:

- #1 - Tuesday, January 4, in the Fellowship Hall at 12:30 p.m.
Contact: Linda Brown
- #4 - Tuesday, January 4, in the McLaurin Room at 10:00 a.m.
Contact: Norma Abbott
- #6 - Wednesday, January 5, in the West Building at 6:30 p.m.
Contact: Ashley Blum
- #7 - Wednesday, January 5, at the West Building at 9:00 a.m.
Contact: Robin Thames
- #8 - Wednesday, January 5, at Covenant Place at 3:00 p.m.
Contact: Winnie Gee and Fran Kay
- #9 - Tuesday, January 4, at the home of Sibbie McFaddin, 321 W. Calhoun Street at 3:00 p.m.
Contact: Pam George



SIX-WEEK ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The Nehemiah Code: It's Never Too Late for a New Beginning by O. S. Hawkins

Beginning Sunday, January 16, Adelaide Spencer will lead a six-week Bible Study - *The Nehemiah Code: It's Never Too Late for a New Beginning*. This study will meet each Sunday in the Chapel from 4:00 - 5:00 pm. **If you are interested in joining this study, please contact Kelly Hickey by January 9.** The cost for the study material is \$15. Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and earmark it The Nehemiah Study. Childcare will be available upon request.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

St. Jude: Elizabeth Williams (Daughter of Barney W. Williams)

Home: Suzanna Foley, Bill Scobee,

Tom Tindal (John Tindal's Brother), Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)