

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



January 8, 2023

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Blessing and Honor

Carol Simone

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME

Glenn Woodrum

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Baptized to journey in the Lord all our days,

People: we witness to God's love and encourage others in the faith.

Leader: Baptized to serve with the stamina of the Holy Spirit,

People: we speak up for those without voice, and we help those in need.

Leader: Baptized to continue the healing ministry of our Lord,

People: we seek to mend all that is broken and bring peace to those who are wounded.

Leader: Baptized to worship the living God,

People: we lift our voices in songs of faith, and we sing praises to our Redeemer.

*** HYMN OF PRAISE 375**

Shall We Gather at the River

HANSON PLACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have disappointed you in what we have done and in what we have left undone. We admit that we have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and lead us in the way of gentle and generous compassion. Give us new chances in this new year to delight in your mercy and to walk in your ways. May we honor you in all things. Hear us as we confess our need.

(Silent Reflection)

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus, who came into the world to save sinners. Baptized and claimed in God's eternal love, we are forgiven and set free to serve others.

People: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.

*** GLORIA PATRI**

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Jesus Loves Me!

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 LESSON

Isaiah 42:1-9

Madelynn Davis

(Pew Bible, pg. 670, Old Testament)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 3:1-17

Rev. Bob Brearley

(Pew Bible, pg. 2, New Testament)

SERMON

"The Surrender Experiment"

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.

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

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

Charles V. Stanford

* 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 547

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

AR HYD Y NOS

* 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

Laudation

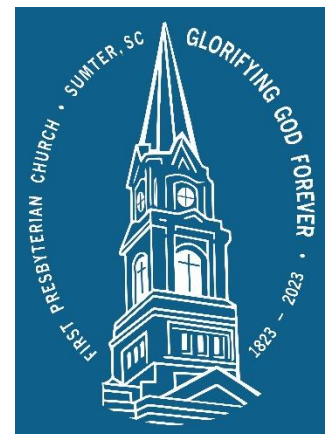
Gilbert M. Martin

* Please stand as you are able

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200 YEARS OF MINISTRY

Welcome to a year of thankful remembrance and hopeful expectation as we celebrate 200 years of ministry. Founded in 1823, faithful elders, pastors, and members have shared the love of God in this community. We thank all who have planned a yearlong celebration of First Presbyterian Church. Special highlights include an international mission Sunday with worship and luncheon with Rev. John McCall on February 12; a local mission Sunday with Mark Champagne of Sumter United Ministries including lunch on May 7; and a culminating Harvest homecoming with luncheon on November 19. The preaching mission will be marked by former pastors returning to our pulpit throughout the year. We hope you will enjoy this significant time in the life of our church!



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: Dan Spencer, Glenn Woodrum
Assisting with Worship: Glenn Woodrum
Deacons: Colin Davis, John Michael Osteen
Youth Liturgist: Madelynn Davis
Junior Ushers: Mille Davis, Richard Dwight

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: Norma Abbott, Bill Richardson
Assisting with Worship: Bill Richardson
Deacons: Jim Alexander, Suzanne Wates
Youth Liturgist: John Land
Junior Ushers: Charlie Coulter, Richard Dwight

JANUARY CHILI FEST

January 22, 2023 ~ 5:00 p.m.

Sign up by **January 16th** at the FPC Welcome Desk, contact Debbie Jackson at debbiejackson1954@gmail.com or Linda Higon at lhigon03@yahoo.com

Make plans now to attend our Chili Cook-off 200th Anniversary Fund Raiser on January 22, at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for an evening of fun and fellowship. Plan to enter the Cook-off with your favorite crock pot full of chili or volunteer to bring bread/cornbread or a dessert. Tastings will be \$1 each and bowls will be \$3 each. Chicken nuggets will be available for the children. A special surprise will be available, and funds raised will be designated for our 200th Anniversary Celebration.



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!

We are in need of nursery workers on Sunday mornings. Volunteers are needed until we hire a replacement. Markita is on maternity leave, and we need a volunteer for her position as well. If you know of anyone who would be interested in this paid position, please contact Debbie Jackson (djackson@fpcsumter.org).

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)

CONGRATULATIONS to Markita Gadson and B. J. Cooper on the birth of a son, Braveon Harrell Cooper, who was born December 17, 2022.