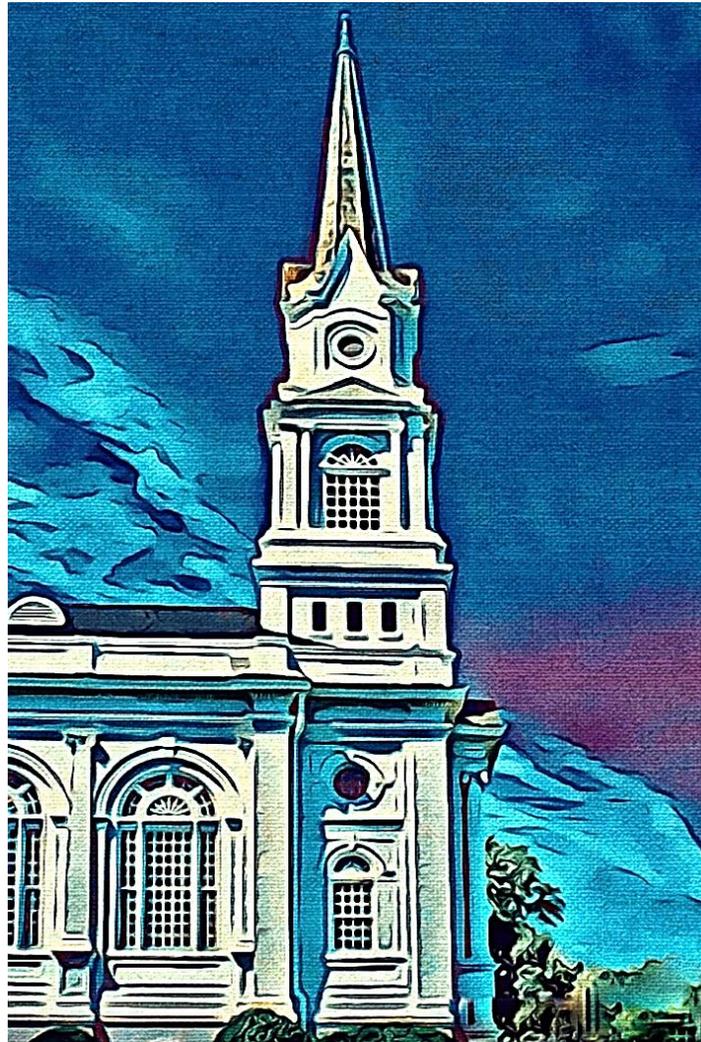


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Christ the King/Commitment Sunday

November 21, 2021

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs* Gerhard Krapf

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME Whit Shaw

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP Bronwyn McElveen

INTROIT *Sing to God, with Joy and Gladness* John L. Bell
Chancel Choir

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Children of God: Welcome!

People: We have come to celebrate God's love and grace.

Leader: Welcome to this place where we receive God's abundant gifts!

People: We come to renew and re-open our faith.

Leader: We gather to commit our time, talents, and resources to God's work.

People: Let us with thankful hearts worship and glorify Christ, our King!

*** HYMN OF PRAISE** 336 *We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing* KREMSER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, we know you are the King of all creation – the Alpha and Omega. Yet, we fail to bow down to your sovereign nature. Forgive us when we attempt to be the rulers of our own lives. Enables us to re-commit our lives – time, talent, and financial resources to the work of your kingdom. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen! *(Silent Reflection)*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Sing Twice) LOE DI ÍSÁ
Jesus knows the inmost heart: nothing can be hidden.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God's grace covers our sins! Let us live in the good news that Christ forgives and liberates us to love and serve.

People: Our hearts are filled with thanksgiving as we celebrate God's pardon in Christ!
Alleluia. Amen!

*** GLORIA PATRI**

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Kelly Hickey
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.

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 37:1-7 Anna Kate Coker
(Pew Bible, pg. 510, Old Testament)

SCRIPTURE READING Revelation 1:4-8 Rev. Joel Long
(Pew Bible, pg. 245, New Testament)

SERMON "Committed and Thankful to The King" Rev. Joel Long

*** 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

SERVICE OF COMMITMENT AND GIVING

Leader: Generous God, we are prepared to give back to you the first fruits of what you have given us.

People: We acknowledge that the world and its resources are not ours, but yours, and that you have put us in charge as your stewards.

Leader: As we bring forward our commitments to support the work of your kingdom through the programs and ministries of First Presbyterian, give us strength to keep the covenants we make today!

People: It is our prayer that you will use our time, talents, and our money as extensions of our lives in your service.

ALL: Thank you for your promise that you will join our one great family as we give ourselves in love and service to everyone we meet in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

An Act of Stewardship-Bringing Our Gifts To The Table

Please bring your Commitment Cards and regular offerings to the Table following the Choir. If you previously mailed your commitment card, please bring a blank card with you as your visible act of commitment during the dedication of gifts. Make plans to come down the center aisle and return to your seat by way of the window aisle on your side of the sanctuary. Regular offerings may also be placed in the baskets by the doorways as you exit worship.

Offertory Anthem *Look at the World* John Rutter

*Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation, give us thankful hearts, that we may see
All the gifts we share and every blessing all things come of thee.*

* 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

* HYMN 727 *We Give Thee but Thine Own* SCHUMANN

BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE SCHUMANN

*We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be:
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Thanks Be to Thee, O Lord* G. F. Handel/Arr. Parks

* Please stand as you are able

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A nursery is provided for children 2 years old and younger in the nursery on the first floor of the Educational Building.

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: Whit Shaw, Dan Spencer
Deacons: Chris Somheil, Kathy Lyons
Youth Liturgist: Anna Kate Coker
Junior Usher: Riley Coker

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Teacher: Karen Ingram Volunteer: Linda Hogon

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: Ann Geddings, Glenn Woodrum
Deacons: John Michael Osteen, Jim Alexander
Youth Liturgist: Jennings Frerichs
Junior Usher: Stuart Ward

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Teacher: Missy Coulter Volunteer: Kelly Hickey



The Stewardship Committee would like to thank all of the members and friends of FPC who returned the Time & Talent Survey and the 2022 Financial Commitment card. As we “Re-open Our Faith” and resume more normal operations of the church, we need a strong team effort. In 2022, we will complete our second century of Christian witness and service to the Sumter Community. Your commitment to Christ can make a mighty difference!

2021 ANNUAL ADVENT WORKSHOP & CATERED BOXED LUNCHEON

For all who registered, the Advent Workshop & Catered Luncheon will be held today immediately following worship in the Fellowship Hall.

NATIVITY STORY

The Nativity will be on Sunday, December 19, during the worship service. **If your child is interested in participating, please contact Kelly Hickey today.** Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Kelly Hickey.



Angels are now available for pickup from the tables in the Fellowship Hall. When choosing an angel, please remember to sign the sheets provided. Wrapped gifts must be returned to the church no later than Wednesday, December 8. Please be sure to tape the angel to the top of the wrapped gift. Gift cards should be enclosed in a sealed Christmas card envelope with the angel taped to the top of the envelope. Please do NOT wrap gift cards as a present. There will be a special box in the Fellowship Hall for gift card envelopes.

IT'S TIME TO ORDER POINSETTIAS

First Presbyterian will again decorate the Sanctuary with poinsettias this year. Order forms were in this week's Focus and are available in front of the church office. All orders must be received no later than Friday, December 3. Please note that no phone orders will be accepted.



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Home: Suzanna Foley, Bill Scobee,
Ashley Long (Joel & Ann Long's daughter-in-law),
Tom Tindal (John Tindal's Brother), Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)