

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



August 29, 2021

**OPENING VOLUNTARY**

*Hiding in Thee*

Ira Sankey/Arr. Dan Forrest

**CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

**WELCOME**

Kay Smith

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Leader:* Holy God, you call us to worship.

**People:** **In your presence, we seek truth and forgiveness.**

*Leader:* Holy God, you call us to worship you.

**People:** **In your presence, we seek the grace to forgive one another.**

*Leader:* *Holy God, you call us to worship you, heart, body, mind and soul.*

**People:** **So, we gather to offer you our prayer and praise with joyful thanks.**

**\* HYMN**

*Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

FESTAL SONG

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

*Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;  
Proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.*

*Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Oh Lord, how long we struggle against each other -- futile, endless, prideful struggle.**

**Oh Lord, how our prayers are drowned in relentless noise, anxiety, and worry.**

**Oh Lord, we run in every direction and everywhere -- before turning to you.**

**Oh Lord, we fight with our minds, hearts, and bodies - - before we look to you for peace.**

**We fail in the real battle to share your grace and mercy with all your children. We come before you in need of your guiding Spirit. We come before you in need of your Word to remind us to pray for one another. We come before you in need of your direction to care for one another as your blessed children. (Silent Reflection)**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Sing Twice)**

LOE DI ÍSÁ

*Jesus knows the inmost heart: nothing can be hidden.*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

While it is true that we have all sinned and failed to reflect God's love in this world, it is also true that God's mercy and grace are boundless. It is a greater truth that we are forgiven through the birth and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. For all who humbly seek to live in the Light of God's love - be at peace with yourself and with one another.

**\* GLORIA PATRI**

**\* PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

Beth McCord

*Following the Children's Moment, children preschool through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade are invited to Children in Worship. Parents can pick up their children from the third floor after worship.*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Psalm 15

Kay Smith

Who may dwell on your holy hill? Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right and speak the truth from their heart; who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors; in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt; who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

James 1:17-27

Rev. Mary McCutchen Ramirez

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

**SERMON***Shaken*

Rev. Mary McCutchen Ramirez

**\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**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

*How Can I Keep from Singing*

Arr. Jeffrey Honoré

**\* 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***Take My Life*

HENDON

***Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.***

***Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love:******Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,******Swift and beautiful for thee.*****\* BENEDICTION****\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

HENDON

***Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only all for thee.***

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY***The Heavens Are Telling*

Franz Joseph Haydn

**\* Please stand as you are able**

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.

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A nursery is provided for children 2 years old and younger in Room 309 on the third 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 baskets on the back counters 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: Kay Smith, Glenn Woodrum  
Deacons: Matthew Berger, Colin Davis

### CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Teacher: Beth McCord  
Volunteer: Jessica Bettinger

### ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: Gus Blum, Liza Cooper  
Deacons: Charlie White, Macaulay Smith

### CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Teacher: Ashley Blum, Caron DuRant  
Volunteer: Brittney Cain

### NEW CHURCH SCHOOL YEAR KICKOFF

Sunday, September 12  
More information coming soon



### “ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS” Preschool and Elementary Ministry September 12 – October 17

Beginning Sunday, September 12, children, 3K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade, are encouraged to join Ms. Kelly, Ms. Jessica, and friends from 4:00 – 5:00 pm to learn more about the Bible, learn memory verses and sing in the Children’s Choir. We will meet in the Chapel each week wearing masks. Parent are asked to drop their children off at the office entrance of the church building. Ms. Kelly will be there to greet you.

### YOUTH GROUP

On Sunday, September 12, youth group will kick off beginning at 5:00 pm in the West Building. We will meet each week from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm. We strongly encourage wearing masks. Unfortunately, due to the rise in COVID cases, we will not be able to serve food at this time; however, we are truly grateful that we can be together in person. We are super excited about this year and look forward to seeing everyone at Youth Group!

### ANONYMOUS GIFT

An anonymous person has gifted \$5,000 to our church in memory of Leon Burgess (1895-1964) and Ada McLeod Burgess (1900-1971), and for their service to First Presbyterian Church of Sumter.

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

**Tuomey:** Tiny Owens

**Home:** Suzanna Foley, Bill Scobee, Tom Tindal (John Tindal’s Brother),  
Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)

**Austin, TX:** Robert Cain (George Cain’s Father)