

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



September 18, 2022

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Thou Shalt Bring Them In

G. F. Handel

INTROIT AND CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

Arr. by Sondra Tucker

O Worship the King

Lauren Decker, Norma Abbott, and Joni Brown, Handbells

WELCOME

Linda Hogon

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The beginning of wisdom is to give reverence to God.

People: God grant us wisdom that we might worship and live with reverence.

Leader: The wise delight to meditate on God's will and the holy life.

People: They are like a tree, planted by streams of water, that yields fruit in season.

Leader: We come to worship God with reverence, hoping to send down the roots of righteousness.

People: Glory be to God, to Jesus Christ, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Leader: We sing the songs of faith that praise our God and renew our souls.

* HYMN 664

Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you love us, but we do not always return that love. You call, but we do not always listen. We often walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We often are slow to resist evil, hatred, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us admit our sin, so that as you move toward us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness. Give us your Holy Spirit that we might be honest before you as we confess our hurts and name our shortcomings. Hear us as we bring our prayers to you.

(Silence for Personal Confession)

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God did not send his son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. This is good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: We will bless the Lord at all times. Thanks be to God now and forever. Amen.

* GLORIA PATRI

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.*

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Jesus Loves Me!

Chuck Staggs

(Children come forward during singing.)

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 113

Cooper Hill

(Pew Bible, pg. 563, Old Testament)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 16:1-13

Chuck Staggs

(Pew Bible, pg. 79, New Testament)

SERMON

"What Comes First?"

Chuck Staggs

* 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 466 (Sing twice)

Come and Fill Our Hearts

CONFITEMINI DOMINO

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

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

Gordon Young

Chancel Choir

* Doxology

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
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!*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

* Offertory Prayer

* HYMN 694 (V. 1-2)

Great God of Every Blessing

AURELIA

* BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 694

AURELIA

*Your Spirit is our teacher, the light that guides our search,
Transforming broken people into the holy church.
For feeding us with mercy, for wisdom you impart:
Sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Sortita in B Flat

G. F. Handel

* Please stand as you are able

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The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Nathaniel (Nat) Gist, III by his mother, Isabel Gist.

We welcome Commissioned Pastor Chuck Staggs to our pulpit this morning. He is currently serving Swan Lake and Fraser Memorial Presbyterian Churches.

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: Linda Hogon, Norma Abbott
Assisting in Worship: Linda Hogon
Deacons: Colin Davis, Kimberly Land
Youth Liturgist: Cooper Hill
Jr. Usher: Millie Davis

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Elders: Bonnie Disney, John Jackson
Assisting in Worship: John Jackson
Deacons: Jim Alexander, Suzanne Wates
Youth Liturgist: Grayson Alexander
Jr. Usher: Richard Dwight, Connor Thames

ON THE MOVE FOR JESUS

September 25 ~ October 23

Children, 3K-5th grade, are encouraged to join Ashley Blum and friends from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. to learn more about the Armor of God.

Adults will meet in the Chapel for a Bible study with Reverend Brearley and focus on Luke, the faithful editor of Mark's gospel, and discover new questions to ask as we seek to follow Jesus. Everyone is welcome!

A light dinner will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

Following dinner, Reverend Brearley will be hosting "Listening Sessions" in the Chapel on September 25, October 2, 16, and 23 and invites everyone to come to one or more to share thoughts and hopes for First Presbyterian Church.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

We are restarting our Sumter Crisis Center (formerly Samaritan House) Meals and Fellowship Ministry. Our first outing is Wednesday Sept 28 starting at 5:30 pm and will last about an hour. If you can prepare a side dish or dessert and/or would like to join us as we interact with the residents, please contact Glenn Woodrum - 803-983-4897 or woodglenn@aol.com.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

World Communion Sunday, on October 2, is a celebration that promotes Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation. The Worship & Music Committee would like to display linens from around the world in the Sanctuary in honor of this worldwide service. Please bring any that you would like to share for this display to the Fellowship Hall on September 28 or 29. They will be available to pick up after the service on October 2. Please contact Linda Hogon at 803-840-7671 if you have any questions.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

Pocataligo River Health & Rehab (Manning): Wanda Casker

Home: Isabel Gist, Milo Abbott (Grandson of Norma Abbott), Billy Lyons, Priscilla Dickey,
John Michael Osteen, Bill Scobee, Robert Stage II (Son of Marta Stage)

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to Isabel Gist on the death of her son, Nathaniel (Nat) Gist, III, who died September 5, in Houston, Texas.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mary Beth (Staggs) and Conner Hodges on the birth of twin daughters, Mary Claire Hodges and Summer Elizabeth Hodges, born on May 12, 2022 in Birmingham, Alabama. Proud big brother is Hayes Hodges and proud grandparents are Chuck and Mary Staggs.