

WORSHIP OF GOD

First Presbyterian Church

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 25, 2016

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

I Will Arise Traditional American Melody
Fantasy on "When in Our Music God Is Glorified" Albert Travis

WELCOME & LIFE IN THE CHURCH

(Both members and guests are invited to complete the Friendship Pad and pass it to those seated next to you.)

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

* **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Please stand)* Sumter Cooper

Leader: Come, Lord God, to receive our worship. Come, Lord Jesus, to receive our praise. Come, Holy Spirit, to receive our thanks. Come, eternal three-in-one God, come where we are gathered to celebrate our unity as your body, the church.

People: We share one faith and are of one soul and one mind, which belong solely and wholly to you.

Leader: We are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup.

People: We confess one name above all other names; we are obedient to one Lord, who frees us from the tyranny and hatefulness of the world.

Leader: We share one hope, one comfort, one goal.

People: We are one people, united by our faith in you, Lord Jesus.

Leader: We are one people, united by your love and mercy to stand against any power that would try to tear us apart.

People: We are one people, united in blessing and in suffering, united in joy and in sorrow, united in strength and in weakness. Let us worship you together!

* **HYMN OF PRAISE** 363 DARWELL'S 148TH
Rejoice, the Lord Is King

CALL TO CONFESSION *(Seated)* Bronwyn McElveen, Liturgist
Within the strength of community, in the power of silence, we come before God with the truth of our lives, trusting in the mercy and love of our Creator. Let us offer our confession before God and each other:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(In Unison)*

Most holy and merciful Father, we confess to you and to one another. We have sinned against you by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not fully loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not always had in us the mind of Christ. You alone know how often we have grieved you by wasting your gifts, by wandering from your ways. Forgive us, we pray, most merciful Father. Free us from our sin. Renew in us the grace

and strength of your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. Amen. *(Silent reflection)*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 427 (Sing twice) LOE DI ÍSÁ
Jesus knows the inmost heart: nothing can be hidden.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Reverend Nick Cheek

* **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.*

THE PEACE: *We share signs of care, love and respect with one another.*

Leader: The peace of God be with you.

People: And also with you.

CHILDREN'S TIME Reverend Nick Cheek
Jesus Loves Me (Children come forward during singing.)

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Sumter Cooper

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Sumter Cooper
James 3:3-18 Pew Bible, New Testament, p. 230

* **HYMN OF PREPARATION** 183 AUSTIN
Come to Me, O Weary Traveler

THE GOSPEL LESSON
John 13:34-35 Pew Bible, New Testament, p. 108

SERMON "Let Love Rule" Reverend Nick Cheek

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

* **THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Bronwyn McElveen
We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ, that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells;

We believe that God's life-giving Word and Spirit have conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world;

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Response: One: In joy or in sadness,
Many: We do not walk alone.

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.

SERVICE OF GIVING Bronwyn McElveen
Call to Giving

All we have and all we are is God's. Let us give thanks for the Lord's provision and joyfully give back to the one who has given so much to us.

The Giving of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory Anthem K. Lee Scott

Write Your Blessed Name

*Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart,
There to remain so indelibly engraved
That no prosperity, no adversity shall ever move me from your love.*

*Be to me a strong tower of defense,
A comforter in tribulation, a deliverer in distress,
And a faithful Guide to the courts of heaven
Through many temptations and dangers of this life.
O Jesu, my only Savior!*

*Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart,
There to remain so indelibly engraved
That no prosperity, no adversity shall ever move me from your love. Amen.*

*The Doxology 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.**

*The Offertory Prayer Reverend Nick Cheek

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* **HYMN OF COMMITMENT** 837 SHOWALTER
What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

* **BENEDICTION**

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** SHOWALTER
*Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms,
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

* **CLOSING VOLUNTARY** John Zundel
Love Divine

Jesus Knows the Inmost Heart and Write Your Blessed Name
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* Please stand as you are able.

Bold type indicates congregational response.

WELCOME!

We especially welcome those of you who are guests today. We invite you to provide us with your contact information in the Friendship Pad. This allows us to say more formally, "Thanks for sharing worship with us." We invite you to share any part of our life together, and look forward to learning how we may serve you in your faith journey. If you have particular questions, please speak to our pastor.

We Care: Please take a gold **Prayer Card** from the pew rack, and write a word of encouragement, congratulations, or a thank you to someone or group. Please include the first and last name of the person you wish to receive the card and your name. You may place your Prayer Card in the offering. On Monday morning, we will send your note of care to that person or group. Prayer Cards bring great joy to those who receive them! So, "let us encourage one another."

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God in memory of Frank McFaddin by Sibbie McFaddin.

meet & greet Come join your church family as we fellowship with the Cheeks!

The church officers have planned a variety of small group gatherings over the next six to eight weeks. Lunches, afternoon tea, evening socials and dinners are all in the works. Sign-up sheets to attend one of these events will be available in the Education Building beginning this Sunday, September 25. A big "thank you" to all the hosts!

Do not miss the fun as we celebrate and welcome Nick and his family.

LECTIONARY LUNCH WITH PASTOR NICK Wednesdays, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. In the McLaurin Room

Bring your lunch and enjoy a led discussion on the lectionary reading for the upcoming Sunday. All ages are welcome.



There will be an important meeting for parents of all youth next Sunday, October 2, in the Sanctuary immediately following morning worship. We will be discussing upcoming events. Be sure to come with your ideas!

Our worship services can be seen on Time Warner Channel 2 Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. or FTC Channel 26 Saturdays at 6:00 p.m. and Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events at FPC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

11:45 a.m. Children's ChoirChoir Room
5:00 p.m. Youth HandbellsSanctuary
6:00 p.m. Youth Group West Building

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

6:00 p.m. Session Meeting.....Session Room
6:00 p.m. Troop 86..... Scout Hut
6:00 p.m. Pack 86..... West Building

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

7:00 a.m. Middle School Prayer Breakfast.....Baker's Sweets
10:00 a.m. Staff MeetingParlor
11:30 a.m. Pastor Lunch/VisitationCovenant Place

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

7:00 a.m. High School Prayer Breakfast Chick Fil-A
12:00 p.m. Lectionary Lunch with Pastor Nick.....McLaurin Room
5:45 p.m. Joy RingersSanctuary
7:00 p.m. Chancel ChoirSanctuary

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2 ~ World Communion Sunday

9:00 a.m. Care and Prayer.....Session Room
9:30 a.m. Sunday School ~ Classes for All Ages
10:30 a.m. Worship.....Sanctuary
11:45 a.m. Youth Parents' MeetingSanctuary
5:00 p.m. Youth BellsSanctuary
6:00 p.m. Youth Group West Building

We ask for your help in keeping this calendar current. This is the calendar to which many individuals refer, including our Pastor. Please be sure to contact Shirley in the church office (swood@fpcsumter.org or 803-773-3814) to add your meeting dates and times. The weekly deadline for the bulletin is Wednesday at 12:00 noon.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Tuomey: Charles Shaw, Claire Richards

Brookdale: Marion Young

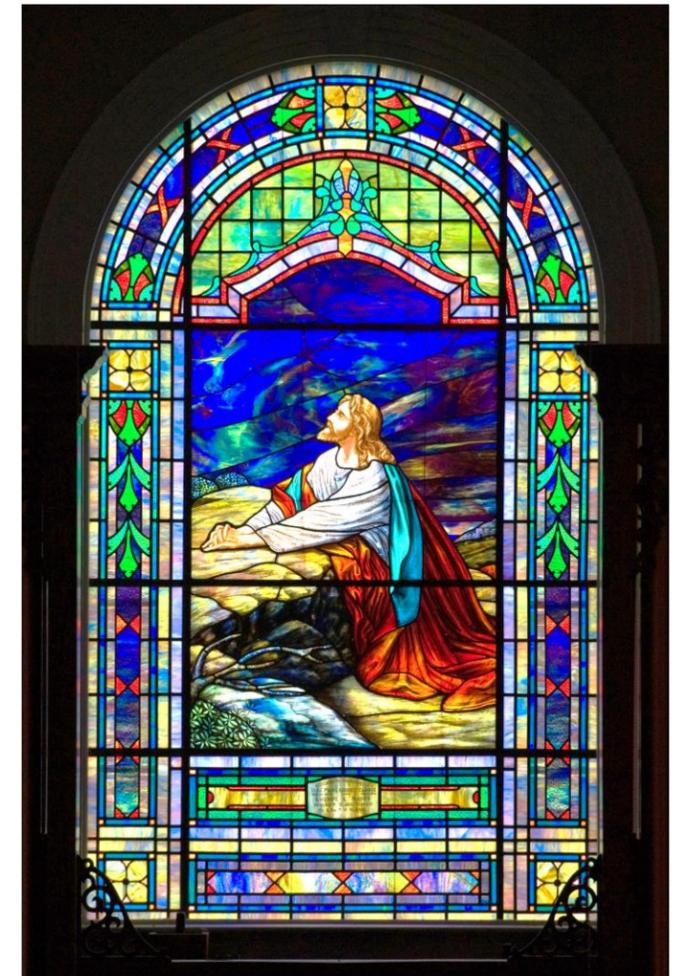
At Home: Terry Hill, Aggie White, Margaret Hunter,
Linda Montague, Helen Brookes-Futrell, Gordon Rettke

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to . . .

- . . . the family of Blaney (Sonny) Coskrey, who died September 18, 2016;
- . . . John and Tumpy Creech on the death of their son-in-law, Eric Johnson, who died September 20;
- . . . Marcè Musser on the death of her brother, Mitch Cantrell, who died in Melbourne, Florida,

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 25, 2016



Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

St. Francis of Assisi



A Stephen Ministry Congregation