

SERVING THE CHURCH

This Week

Liturgist: Candie Vaitkevicius
Sound: Joe Vaitkevicius
Ushers: Joe Vaitkevicius
Candie Vaitkevicius

SERVING THE CHURCH

Next Week

Liturgist: Bill Marshall (PA)
Sound:
Ushers: Jan Kross
Jerry Kross

Elder of the Month for August: Bill Marshall (NS), 864-967-9855 (H), 864-230-5268 (cell)

SESSION MEMBERS

Class of 2021

Bill Marshall (NS)
Bill Marshall (PA)
Barb Daugherty

Class of 2022

Linda Stenhouse
Jerry Kross
Jackie Koch



Cover Art:
Google Images



Sunday, August 22, 2021

First Presbyterian Church

Simpsonville, SC

"Growing Together in Faith – Loving and Serving in the World"

Office Hours: Mon.-Thur. 9AM-12PM

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Darrell Johnson, Pianist Jackie Koch, Office Administrator

The WiFi Identity is FPCS-Guest and the password to connect is Grace4all.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

August 22, 2021

13th Sunday after Pentecost

* WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remain seated for a time of silent meditation as we prepare to worship God. The wearing of masks during service and singing hymns is optional.

NOTE: This service may be video recorded.

Please stand if you are able where asterisk.

PRELUDE "I Heard the Voice of Jesus" Arr. Englert

***OUR CALL TO WORSHIP** Candie Vaitkevicius, Liturgist

Leader: The prophets of old spoke of God's justice, even when it was unwelcome. Who will hear their message?

People: We will listen and we will hear!

Leader: Responding to God's call, Jesus traveled, preaching and teaching all who would listen. Who will hear his message?

People: We will listen and we will hear!

Leader: Christ sent out disciples two by two, to spread the good news in any place that would welcome them. Who will hear their message?

People: We will listen and we will hear!

Leader: God's prophets are among us still, around the world and in these pews. Who will hear their message?

People: We will listen and we will hear!

***OPENING HYMN #477** "Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF OUR SIN (unison prayer)

Holy God, you call us to be your beloved children and to care for one another, yet we fail to love others and ourselves. Helpless and ashamed, we turn our hearts to you. Forgive us, and then tenderly teach us to stand strong and courageous in the fullness of your love, by the grace and mercy of Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God forgives us and strengthens us for love; therefore, be at peace and know that you are forgiven.

VIDEO TRAINING: We are seeking volunteers to train to use our new video recording equipment. If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet on the back table.

THE LEGACY PROJECT is a time of discernment for congregations to identify gifts of the congregation, reflect upon their impact to the community, and plan for the future. The FPC Legacy Project team is working on this with representatives from Foothills Presbytery and the Presbyterian Foundation.

The team has met several times for discussions of "Sailboat Church." We would like to share some of the key points from each chapter with the Congregation. Each week, through October 3rd, the bulletin will

highlight important messages from a chapter in the book. This week Chapter four will be our focus.

Chapter 4 "Our Boat, the Church"

The church is a divine, even supernatural, community gathered by God to do God's work. The holiness of the body of Christ does not come from its individual members. It comes from Christ, who keeps us in grace and gives forgiveness, transformation, and new life.

In the Fullness of Time, Jesus: In his suffering-servant death on the cross, Jesus gave birth to the church. He is the captain of our Sailboat. His cross is its mast. He calls believers to live as sailors, setting sail by the Spirit and navigating in the flow of God's will. But even if the sails are raised and the sailors are ready, a Sailboat has to have wind in order to sail. This is why what happened on Pentecost is so crucial to the church's story.

From Pentecost day onward, the Holy Spirit worked within the first believers to help them understand the true meaning of Jesus' life, teachings, death, and resurrection. The church was created to be a Spirit-powered mission movement, and in this regard nothing has changed since the day of Pentecost.

FORTY DAYS OF PRAYER: The next step in the Legacy Project is "Forty Days of Prayer." The congregation is urged to do these daily prayers with the team. Prayers begin today. You should have received the first two weeks of prayers in an Eblast or by mail. Printed copies are available in the Narthex.

SCHEDULES AND EVENTS

FOOD PANTRY: Your continued prayers and giving hearts allow us to keep this mission to our neighbors going. Suggestions for the month of August are hearty soups and stews. As always, we are grateful for all donations.

VIDEO RECORDINGS: Video recordings of services that have been previously recorded are available on the Church's website: www.firstpresssimpsonville.com. Click on "Videos" in the menu at the top or click on the picture of a worship service in the lower right."

PULPIT SUPPLY:

Aug. 29: Jim Caprell
Sep. 05: Beverly Kelly
Sep. 12: Pressley Cox

REVISED COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS: Please note that, as of June 20th, our Revised Safety Protocols are in effect. The most noteworthy change is the lifting of the mask requirement. These protocols were emailed to those with email and mailed to those without email. There are extra copies of the Revised Protocols on the table in the Narthex.

Due to the changes to our worship service because of the pandemic, we are asking those who have served in the past as ushers, liturgists, and in the sound booth to sign up for Sundays for the rest of this year. Sign-up sheets are located on the back table, along with the sign-up sheet for flowers. We encourage others who have not served in these capacities in the past to also sign up. We need more volunteers for these duties since some of our congregation have not yet returned to active worship due to COVID.

CARDS: Join us for a game of cards on Wednesday, August 25th, at 11 a.m. here at the Church. Bring your own lunch.

LEGACY TEAM MEETING: Members of the Legacy Team will meet on Monday, August 23rd, at 7 p.m. here at the Church. Chapters 8-10 of "Sailboat Church" will be discussed.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Response: "Thank You, Lord"

*Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul
Thank you, Lord, for making me whole
Thank you, Lord, for giving to me
Thy great salvation so rich and free*

HYMN #333 "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 6:1-13

SERMON

"(Un)packing for the Journey"

Rev. Pressley Cox

***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 sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living 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.

Joys and Concerns of the People and The Lord's Prayer

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,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF OFFERING AND PRAYER (the offering plate is located on a back table in the sanctuary just inside the back double doors.)

OFFERTORY "Break Thou the Bread of Life" Arr. Larson

***The Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the LORD!

Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

THE SHARING OF THE MEAL: The communion meal is pre-packaged. Upon receiving it from the servers, open and eat the wafer but hold the juice to drink together. The wafer is not gluten free.

***CLOSING HYMN #429 "Lord, You Give the Great Commission"**

***BENEDICTION**

RESPONSE: "The Lord Bless and Keep You"

*The Lord bless and keep you,
The Lord make his face to shine on you
and be gracious, gracious.*

*The Lord bless and Keep you,
The Lord lift his countenance on you
and give peace, give you peace.
Amen, Amen*

POSTLUDE

"Rejoice, All Ye People"

Methfessel

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN! Whether you are a long-time member or first time visitor, we are glad you are here. If you would like to learn more about the First Presbyterian community, we invite you to contact us through our website www.firstpressimpsonville.com, or by calling the church office at (864)963-8854.

We welcome to our pulpit today The Rev. Pressley Neal Cox. She is a graduate of Presbyterian College (BA in Religion/Christian Education), Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary (Master of Arts in Religious Education) and Columbia Theological Seminary (Masters of Divinity). She brings over twenty years in ministry and has a strong sense of call to the ministry of Christian Education. Pressley will be supporting leaders, making connections, resourcing, and coaching among the congregations of our presbytery, the surrounding communities, and across our denomination. She is married to Ben and they have three children: Sara, Emily, and Henry.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS this week are given by Kitty Shealy. Thank you!

BIBLE STORY BAGS are available for children during worship. See an usher if you would like one for your child to use. Please return the bag to an usher after worship.

LIFE IN THE CONGREGATION

PRAYER CONCERNS: Pastor Cassie, John Jackson; Jean Kirkland, Lila Childs (friend of Bill & Sue Marshall); Ronnie Storch; Sue Marshall's mother; Michael Kolmer (Sue Marshall's brother); Colleen Rogers (friend of the Stenhouse family); Etta Gallo (sister of Jo Klein); Doris Phipps (sister of Linda Stenhouse); Dan Mills (brother of Barb Daugherty—Missionary to Papua New Guinea); Ivy Bertuzzi; Pat Clark; Elizabeth Cooper; Dixie Suit (sister-in-law of Kitty Shealy); Roger Edney (relative of Barb & Roger Daugherty). Do not hesitate to call or email the Church Office (office@firstpressimpsonville.com) about any pastoral concerns.

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK: Ivy & Rick Bertuzzi, Bill & Sue Marshall

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: None