



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Greer, South Carolina

100 School Street  
Greer, SC 29651  
(864) 877-3612  
[www.fpcgreer.org](http://www.fpcgreer.org)

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

*Near to the Heart of God/Children of the Heavenly Father*  
Ivey May, french horn

arr. Adams

Call to Worship

Children of God, come to the waters.

**We gather to be restored and renewed.**

Come, with your faith and your doubt.

**We respond to the one who claims and calls us.**

Come, Christ summons us to draw near.

**Let us worship God with joy and thanksgiving.**

Hymn # 35

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

LOBE DEN HERREN

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

35 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise ye the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -  
2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly  
3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy  
reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so  
dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with

health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his  
gen - tly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -  
prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

tem - ple draw near; join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?  
peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1-6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord, we long to draw close to you,  
 but we are afraid.  
 We are afraid to heed your summons  
 for we do not know what awaits us  
 when we step out in faith.  
 We are wary of taking risks for your sake  
 because the forces of chaos seem stranger  
 than your assurances to us.  
 We worry that we will not have enough faith  
 in you or in the gifts you've given us to do the things you ask.  
 Forgive us Lord, and save us.  
 Reach out your hand,  
 and lift us from fear  
 that we might follow you faithfully.

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Response # 435 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*  
 verse 1

IN BABILONE

FORGIVENESS

435 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy, like the wide-ness  
 2 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures  
 of the sea. There's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice,  
 of the mind. And the heart of the E-ter-nal  
 which is more than lib-er-ty. There is no place where earth's  
 is most won-der-ful-ly kind. If our love were but more  
 sor-rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place  
 faith-ful, we would glad-ly trust God's Word, and our lives re-  
 where earth's fail-ings have such kind-ly judg-ment given.  
 flect thanks-giv-ing for the good-ness of our Lord.

These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

TEXT: Frederick William Faber, 1854; alt.  
 MUSIC: Dutch melody; arr. Julius Röntgen, c. 1906

IN BABILONE  
8.7.8.7.D

Moment with the Children

Anthem

*Be Thou My Vision*  
Wendi Arms and Jennifer Keller, duet

arr. Courtney

Scripture Reading

Genesis 37 (selected verses)

Sermon

“Reasonable Reuben”

Dr. Peery

Affirmation of Faith

from The Confession of Belhar

**We believe that the church must witness against  
and strive against any form of injustice,  
so that justice may roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.  
We believe that the church as the possession of God  
must stand where the Lord stands,  
namely against injustice and with the wronged.  
We believe that in following Christ  
the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged  
who selfishly seek their own interest  
and thus control and harm others.**

Prayers of the People

Offering

Congregational Response # 608 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

PRAISE GOD (Hopson)

## Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow 608

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: G, C, Am7, Dsus, D, G, D, Am7, Dsus, D, Am7, D, G, Am7, G, C, Am7, G, Am7, D, G.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow;      praise Christ, all  
 peo - ple here be - low;      praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -  
 more;      praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

TEXT: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988  
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 2008  
Text © 1990 Neil Weatherhogg  
Music © 2008 Hal H. Hopson

PRAISE GOD (Hopson)  
LM

DEDICATION AND STEWARDSHIP

# 700 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)  
 2 I'm gon-na work so (work so) God can use me an - y -  
 3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)  
 4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!  
 (an - y - time!)  
 I'm gon-na  
 I'm gon-na  
 I'm gon-na  
 I'm gon-na

live so (live so)  
 work so (work so) God can use me an - y -  
 pray so (pray so)  
 sing so (sing so)

where, Lord, an - y - time!  
 (my Lord,) (an - y - time!)

This African American spiritual has more depth than may at first appear: for people who are bound in slavery to sing about dedicating themselves to God's use shows a profound awareness of God-given self-worth despite circumstances that would deny their human or spiritual value.

TEXT: African American spiritual  
 MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Wendell P. Whalum, 1984  
 Music Arr. © Estate of Wendell P. Whalum

I'M GONNA LIVE  
 Irregular

**Charge and Benediction**

**Benediction Response**

*A Parting Blessing*  
 Wendi Arms and Jennifer Keller, duet

Williams

**Postlude**

*Laudation*

Martin

**Welcome to worship on this Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost.** Please indicate your presence by emailing Lisa Johnson at [lisaj@fpcgreer.org](mailto:lisaj@fpcgreer.org).

**Today's bulletin artwork** is entitled, "From the Pit" (Joseph's Brothers Sell Him Into Slavery), by Lisle Gwynn Garrity, and is used with permission by A Sanctified Art.

**The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession** are from Call to Worship: Lectionary Aids 2019-2020, Year A, published by the Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

**The rosebud in worship today** honors the birth of Connor Truman Saul on August 10, 2020 to Justin and Carly Saul. Congratulations!

**Thank you to** Ivey May, Jennifer Keller, Wendi Arms, Lisa Dillard and Pam Turnage for sharing their musical gifts in worship.

**Please note that we now have the capability to accept your offering via text message.** Please text GIVE to 18649993612. You may also give on our website or by mailing a check to the church office.

**Ministers:** All Members of the Congregation  
**Interim Pastor:** The Reverend Dr. Pete Peery  
**Associate for Pastoral Care, Adult Education and Mission:** Whitney Moss  
**Parish Associate:** The Reverend Dr. Al Masters  
**Director of Youth Ministry:** Victoria Robinson  
**Director of Music:** Lisa Dillard  
**Assistant Director of Music:** Pam Turnage  
**Praise Team Leader:** Wendi Arms