



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Greer, South Carolina

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



## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

A scribe said to Jesus, "I will follow you wherever you go."  
Jesus responded bluntly: "Following me isn't easy."  
We want to follow you, Jesus.  
But we, like your disciples, struggle with doubt and fear.  
Our doubt and fear take over, often clouding our understanding of your miraculous love.

You asked them, "Why are you afraid, you of little faith?"  
You ask us the same thing today.  
We confess our fear of the unknown.  
We confess our need to be in control.  
We confess our inability to trust you completely.

Forgive us. Encourage us.  
Teach us to follow, even when we don't think we can anymore.  
Even though faith is often not easy, replace our doubts with faithfulness,  
our fears with courage, and our apathy with love.  
All in the pursuit of Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

### Congregational Response # 447

*We Are Forgiven*

WE ARE FORGIVEN

#### FORGIVENESS

## 447 We Are Forgiven

The musical score is written in treble clef, G major, and 3/4 time. It consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God." The chords indicated above the notes are: G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, Dsus, D, G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, D, G.

To sing, rather than simply say, a response to the Declaration of Forgiveness has the effect of making the moment both more affirmative and more corporate. The musical repetition of the two sentences also strengthens awareness of what it means to be assured of God's pardon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1995  
Music © 1995 Hal H. Hopson

WE ARE FORGIVEN  
10.8.10.8

## Moment with the Children

### Special Music

*Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated*  
Bob Harrison, solo

arr. Hayes

**Affirmation of Faith**

Leader: When Jesus walked the earth, he proclaimed who he was.

**People: Christ said, “I am the bread of life.”**

Leader: Our belief in him gives us nourishment for living.

**People: Christ said, “I am the Light of the World.”**

Leader: Our belief in him allows us to shine in darkness.

**People: Christ said, “Before Abraham was, I am.”**

Leader: Our belief in him means we understand Jesus as the fulfillment of God’s covenant promises.

**People: Christ said, “I am the gate.”**

Leader: Our belief in him shows us who God is and continually calls us out into the world.

**People: Christ said, “I am the Good Shepherd.”**

Leader: Our belief in him signifies that we will follow him and live under his protection.

**People: Christ said, “I am the resurrection and the life.”**

Leader: Our belief in him grants us eternal life, knowing he laid down his life for us.

**People: Christ said, “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.”**

Leader: Our belief in him gives us direction, true understanding, and freedom from sin.

**People: Christ said, “I am the true vine.”**

Leader: Our belief in him gives us purpose and a divine connection to our Savior.

**People: We all have our differences, but we proclaim these truths just as Christ proclaimed them to his followers.**

**All: We believe Jesus is our living Lord who nourishes, shines, fulfills, calls, protects, saves, directs, and frees us. Amen!**

**Prayers of the People**

**Offering**

**Congregational Response # 606**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

SERVICE MUSIC

606

Praise God, from Whom  
All Blessings Flow  
Doxology

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano/Alto and Bass/Tenor) in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise \*him, all creatures here be - low; praise \*him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men." The asterisk indicates an alternative word, "God", for the first two lines.

\*Or "God"

TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709  
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDREDTH  
LM

**Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord’s Prayer**

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

# Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761

1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,  
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,  
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life

we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
 let us fol - low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.  
 help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.  
 that sur-round each per - son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,  
 Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor - er, all God's peo - ple, young and old,  
 Words of com - fort, words of vi - sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,  
 Make us part-ners in our liv - ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,

e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful - fill God's cho - sen end.  
 blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth - er gra - cious gifts from God un - fold.  
 bring new power and strength for ac - tion, make us col - leagues, free and fair.  
 mes - sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

TEXT: Jane Parker Huber, 1981  
 MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870  
 Text © 1981 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

BEECHER  
 8.7.8.7.D  
 (alternate tune: EBENEZER)

Charge and Benediction

Benediction Response

May the Love of the Lord

SOON TI

Postlude

Doxology Postlude

Stearns

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

The **Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, and Affirmation of Faith** are taken from the UKirk Ministries Worship Resource, Evangelism and Church Growth, PCUSA. Copyright 2015.

**Special thanks** to Mary Moore Driggers for her leadership in worship this morning.

**Thank you to** Bob Harrison, Wendi Arms, and Lisa Dillard for sharing their musical gifts in worship.

Some of this morning's prayers are attributed to Rev. Jill Duffield, Presbyterian pastor and editor of *The Presbyterian Outlook*.

**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.



You are invited to join us this morning from 9-11 a.m. in the back church parking lots for our congregational donuts and prayers drive-thru event. The church staff will be present and look forward to seeing you and providing you and your family with information about fall faith formation opportunities for children, youth, and adults.



We are restocking the Backpack Buddies Pantry as we get ready to send home supplemental weekend food to Greer Middle students. You may purchase items and drop them off in the pantry at the church, or you can click <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2ZQ62K8KQICC6?&sort=default> for the Backpack Buddies Pantry Amazon Wishlist. If you are interested in serving on the packing rotation, please contact Amy Couch.



**Newsletter Schedule Change**—Beginning on September 8th, the First Presbyterian Newsletter will be sent out every other Tuesday. If you have content for the newsletter, please email it to Lisa Johnson at [lisaj@fpcgreer.org](mailto:lisaj@fpcgreer.org) by the Friday prior to the send date.

**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  
**Director of Operations:** Maggie Wentzky