

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Greer, South Carolina

11:00 a.m. Worship



100 School Street Greer, SC 29651 ~ (864) 877-3612 ~ www.fpcgreer.org

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* arr. Stills

***Call to Worship**

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.
I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Hymn No. 410** *God Is Calling through the Whisper* W ZLOBIE LEZY

Call to Confession

Confession of Sin

O God, who calls us from death to life, call us even now. We confess that we are a people bound up in commitments we cannot keep, promises we daily break, obligations that overwhelm us, responsibilities that threaten to undo us. Only you know how far we live from you and how deeply we doubt your power to redeem us. Forgive us our caution and calculation in discipleship, we ask you, and do not forsake us. For if we are left to ourselves, we will surely bring it all to ruin; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Response No. 422 *Create in Me a Clean Heart* CREATE IN ME

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Assurance of Pardon

***Response No. 582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* GLORY TO GOD

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,
whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Invitation to the Children

Anthem *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* arr. Hogan

Prayer for Illumination

Almighty God, whom we know most surely in Jesus Christ, help us test our lives by the light of his life. Then, summon us to a new and deeper commitments as your disciples; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 9:1-4 Pew Bible, pg. 555

New Testament Reading Matthew 4:12-23 Pew Bible, pg. 785

Sermon "Following the Light" Reverend Shelburne

***Affirmation of Faith** from *A Declaration of Faith*, 1977

We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives in pilgrimage toward God's kingdom. Like Christ we may enjoy on our journey all that sustains life and makes it pleasant and beautiful. No more than Christ are we spared the darkness, ambiguity, and threat of life in the world. We are in the world, but not of the world. Our confidence and hope for ourselves and other people do not rest in the powers and achievements of this world, but in the coming and hidden presence of God's kingdom. Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom: to serve as he has served us; to take up our cross, risking the consequences of faithful discipleship; to walk by faith, not by sight, to hope for what we have not seen. Amen.

Service of Installation

Prayers of the People

Offering

Offertory *Where He Leads Me, I Will Follow* Kendall

***Response No. 708** *We Give Thee but Thine Own* SCHUMANN

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

***Prayer of Dedication and the Lord's Prayer**

***Hymn No. 726** *Will You Come and Follow Me* KELVINGROVE

***Charge and Benediction**

***Response No. 765** *May the God of Hope Go with Us* ARGENTINA

May the God of hope go with us everyday, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all; working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.

***Postlude** *Postlude Variations on "Morning Song"* Lasky

* Those who are able may stand.

Welcome to worship on this Third Sunday after Epiphany. Please record your presence by signing the fellowship pads located in each pew. If worshipping with us online, please share your presence by emailing Lisa Johnson at lisaj@fpcgreer.org or by completing the online attendance ritual of friendship form on our website, www.fpcgreer.org/online-attendance.

Thank you to Elizabeth Clayton for assisting in worship today.

We welcome and give thanks for Lorelea Wright who is being installed today to the office of Deacon (Class of 2025).

Join us TODAY for a congregational potluck lunch in the fellowship hall following 11:00 a.m. worship. Fried chicken will be provided and we ask that you bring two side dishes or a dessert to share. All are invited to this time of fellowship and great food!

Elementary Children are invited to gather TODAY for Sunday Funday after the congregational potluck. Meet in the Children's Music Room at 12:45 p.m. Parents may pick up at 2:00 p.m.

The Session has called a congregational meeting for January 29th at the beginning of 11:00 a.m. worship for the purpose of voting on changes to Reverend Shelburne's terms of call as required by the Book of Order (G-1.0503). All active members of the congregation are entitled to vote, so plan to join us for this important business of the church.

Please pray for our 8th grade confirmands as they begin a time faith exploration. At their weekly meetings they will be using curriculum entitled, "Big God, Big Questions: Confirmation For a Growing Faith". After several months of study, they will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday.

We need a team of volunteers to help serve meals on the weekends at the Greer Soup Kitchen. Most groups rotate and take a shift every few months on either a Saturday (9:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.) or a Sunday (2:00 p.m.—5:30 p.m.). A team of 8-10 people is ideal, but more are welcome. A member of the Soup Kitchen board will be there to guide the team through the meal serving process. If you are interested in helping, please contact Sandy Thomason at sandythomason123@gmail.com.

Senior Pastor: The Reverend Will Shelburne
Director of Music: Lisa Dillard
Assistant Director of Music: Pam Turnage
Praise Team Leader: Wendi Arms
Director of Operations: Maggie Wentzky
Financial Administrator: Lynn Bennett
Administrative Assistant: Lisa Johnson
Faith Formation Intern: Lizzie McCallum
Kitchen Manager: Emily Huff