FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Greer, South Carolina 8:55 a.m. Worship



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

-FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

November 5, 2023

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

8:55 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude I've Got the Joy Stephenson
Resounding Joy Handbell Choir

*Call to Worship

O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God.

*Prayer of Adoration

*Hymn No. 626 As the Deer AS THE DEER

Please sing twice.

Confession of Sin

We acknowledge before you, O God, that we are drawn to false teachings. We succumb to the adoration of this world when we seek to be noticed, crave being honored, and look for the best seats. We have ignored the true teacher who calls us to lives of humility, kindness, and service toward others. Forgive us. Help us to practice the teachings of Jesus. Just as we long to place our burdens on you, make us long to ease the burdens of our friends, families, neighbors, and creatures of earth. Set us on your path, O God; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Response No. 415

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

RESTORATION

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore; Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power. I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms. In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.

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.

*Words of Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

(Please greet your neighbors with words of God's peace.)

Invitation to the Children

Prayer for Illumination

Almighty and everlasting God, who of your goodness has given us an enduring fellowship of faith: prepare our hearts to receive your word, that we may show forth our gratitude in steadfast discipleship, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

New Testament Reading Matthew 23:1-12 Pew Bible, pg. 804

Sermon "Bearing Burdens" Reverend Shelburne

*Affirmation of Faith 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

Minute for Stewardship

Carson Garrett and Karen Greene

Offering

Offertory Cantilena Sherman

Resounding Joy Handbell Choir

*Response No. 711 Lord of All Good TOULON

Lord of all good, our gifts we bring to you; use them your holy purpose to fulfill, tokens of love and pledges brought anew, that our whole life is offered to your will.

*Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation and Institution
Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Prayer

*Hymn No. 320 The Church of Christ in Every Age WAREHAM

*Charge and Benediction

*Response No. 39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness FAITHFULNESS

^{*} Those who are able may stand.

Welcome to worship on this Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost. We ask that you record your presence today by signing the fellowship pads located in each pew. If worshiping online, please share your presence by emailing Lisa Johnson at lisaj@fpcgreer.org or by completing the online attendance form on our website, www.fpcgreer.org/online-attendance.

The flowers today are given in honor of Reverend Ally Pexa by her husband, Reverend Jacob Kennedy, in celebration of their first wedding anniversary.

Thank you to Ed and Christy Driggers, Carson Garrett, and Karen Greene for assisting in worship and to the members of the Resounding Joy Handbell Choir for sharing their musical gifts.

The Cardmaking Ministry meets TODAY from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in the Agape Room. All ages and skill levels are welcome and encouraged to join in. Contact Maggie Wentzky for more information.

Youth Group meets this evening at 5:30 p.m. for dinner and a mission project.

Men's Monthly Breakfast is November 8 at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

Veterans Day is November 11. During worship on November 12, we will recognize with great appreciation the service and sacrifice of our veterans and their families. If you have not previously provided us your name, please contact Lisa Johnson at lisaj@fpcgreer.org to be added to the list of those who have served our country.

November 12 is Stewardship Dedication Sunday. Both services will be in the sanctuary and you are invited to bring your pledge cards forward during worship. Join us at noon in the fellowship hall for a congregational potluck luncheon. Spinx chicken and dessert will be provided. Please bring two side dishes to share.

All girls third grade through twelfth grade are invited to sing with in the Young Ladies' Ensemble for Christmas. Rehearsals are November 5 and 19 as well as December 3 at 9:45 a.m. in the choir room. We will sing for the Joygift service on December 10.

Joyful Noise Ringers rehearse on November 12 and 19 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. and will play for worship on December 3. This beginner to intermediate handbell choir will play Christmas music this session. Please contact Lisa Dillard if you are interested.

A friendly reminder! Infants and children up to age 6 are welcome in the nursery or in worship at any time. Children up to 1st grade who attend worship are welcome to go to the nursery following the invitation to children. We ask that older children remain in worship.