FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Greer, South Carolina 8:55 a.m. Worship



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

April 14, 2024 Third Sunday of Easter 8:55 a.m. Welcome and Announcements Prelude Lord, I Lift Your Name on High Founds *Call to Worship I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. For God's anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever. *Prayer of Adoration *Hymn Because He Lives Gaither God sent his son, they called him Jesus. He came to love, heal, and forgive. He bled and died to buy my pardon, an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives. Refrain: Because He lives, I can face tomorrow. Because He lives, all fear is gone. Because I know He holds the future. And life is worth the living, just because He lives. And then one day I'll cross that river; I'll fight life's final war with pain. And then as death gives way to victory, I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He reigns. Refrain Confession of Sin O God, who is always ready to hear our confession and by such mercies as we cannot give one another, save us from our sin: where age has hardened our hearts, surprise us by your tenderness; where youth has kept us from trust, capture us by your truth; where fear has divided us from one another, overwhelm us with your grace; where anxiety has muted our praise, fill us with gratitude. And from views too earthbound, futures now foreclosed, conclusions already drawn, commitments never dared, save us Sovereign Lord, and in your great compassion lift our hearts and spirits heavenward; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Response No. 441 Hear the Good News of Salvation NETTLETON All the sins I have committed, to my Savior now I bring. I bow down with tears of anguish; Christ forgives and so I sing: Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin! How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within. Assurance of Pardon *Response No. 245 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today! EASTER HYMN Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia! Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia! Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia! Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

Moment for Mission

Rachel Crescibene, Thornwell

*Words of Peace

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

Invitation to the Children

Prayer for Illumination

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

| Old Testament Reading | Psalm 4 | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| New Testament Reading | Luke 24: 36-48 | |
| Sermon | "Joyful Disbelief" | |

Reverend Shelburne

*Affirmation of Faith

from The Confession of 1967

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Offering

Offertory

Give Me Jesus

arr. McDonald

*Response No. 716

God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BEACH SPRING

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

*Prayer of Dedication and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 246

Christ Is Alive! verses 1, 4, & 5 TRURO

*Charge and Benediction

*Those who are able may stand.

Welcome to worship on this Third Sunday of Easter. We invite you to record your presence by signing the fellowship pads located in each pew. If worshiping with us online, we ask that you share your presence by emailing Lisa Johnson at lisaj@fpcgreer.org or filling out the online attendance form on our website, www.fpcgreer.org/online-attendance.

Thank you to Val Hendrickson and Jenny Munro for assisting in worship and to our musicians for sharing their gifts.

We welcome Rachel Crescibene from Thornwell. She has served for four years as a Senior Advancement Office working with donors, churches, and community partners throughout the upstate.

F3 and GROW for elementary age children meets TODAY at 12:00 p.m. Come join us for a time of fellowship and fun!

Mid High Youth meet this evening at 5:30 p.m. for dinner and a movie. Our Senior Highs are traveling home today following a weekend mission trip in Asheville, NC.

Join us next Sunday, April 21, following 11:00 a.m. worship for a congregational potluck lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Fried chicken will be provided and we ask you to bring a side dish or dessert to share. All are welcome!

Sunday Funday for K4 - 5th Grade is April 21 at 4:00 p.m. Contact Maggie Wentzky with questions.

The Dunbar Pantry shelves are nearly empty. We need breakfast items, canned vegetables, fruit and pudding cups, juice boxes, snack items, and canned entrees. Donations can be dropped off at the church or you can visit the Amazon wish list on the FPCG website and have your order shipped directly to the church. Thank you for your support!

Join us September 30 - October 5 for the 2024 US/Mexico Border Mission Delegation! Participating in this short term immersion trip will help participants gain a deeper understanding of the economic, political, and spiritual connection that we have across the border. During our time, we will have the opportunity to foster new relationships with our siblings in Christ across the border, to gain insight into the work of our partner PCUSA mission co-worker, Mark Adams, and to strengthen our relationship with Frontera de Cristo. Participants should come prepared to learn and to participate in a variety of activities, ranging from learning experiences that will help delegations understand life in the borderlands, to service opportunities, all the way to devotions and biblical reflections. Mark Adams will be working with our group to customize and finalize our itinerary as we get closer to our trip. **Registration is due by May 1**. You can get a registration form either by visiting the church office or emailing Ally.

VBS REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! Join us for *Camp Firelight: A Summer Camp Adventure with God!* Our adventure takes place June 3 - 7 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. VBS is open to children nursery through 5th grade and also offers a component for middle school youth. High School Youth and Adult Volunteers are needed to fill various roles before, during, and after VBS. Please see this week's bulletin insert or visit www.fpcgreer.org/vbs-information/ for additional details and list of needed supplies.

Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge or contribution to the Organ Fund! If you have not already done so, we invite you to prayerfully consider a donation either as a pledge or a one-time gift. Pledge cards are available in the pew racks and at various locations around the church. Every contribution will make a lasting impact on this congregation's legacy of inspiring people to faith and service. We expect the new Cornel Zimmer organ installation to begin on April 22 and we will say "farewell" to our Etsey organ during worship on April 21.

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