



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 3, 2017

10:30 a.m.

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

*Please sign the Welcome Pad and pass it along the pew.
Turn off all cell phones, and refrain from using cameras during worship.*

VOLUNTARY: Arabesque Louis Vierne (1870-1937)
John Alexander, organ

WELCOME, CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & EXTENDING HOSPITALITY Lara Musser Gritter

* CALL TO WORSHIP Doug McLeroy

Leader: In the morning when the sun rises

People: We shall praise you, O Lord.

Leader: You have delivered us through every long night

People: And given us safe passage across rivers of struggle.

Leader: The darkness is past; the Light has come.

All: In joy we raise our song and prayer to you, O Lord.

– from All the Seasons of Mercy

* HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 343 – Called as Partners in Christ's Service BEECHER

* CALL TO CONFESSION *and* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, you pour your living Spirit into our lives. We confess that we are not receptive to your presence. You stir us like the unpredictable wind – suggesting astonishing things like feeding and forgiving our enemies, when we feel most uncharitable. You sweep over us like flames of fire, yet we persist in ignoring the light. We remain untouched and unmoved, and so, unloved and unloving. Without your Spirit, we are as lifeless dry bones

PRAYER OF CONFESSION continues, over

strewn in the desert. O God, you can bring us to life again-sensitive to the presence and call of your Spirit. Forgive us and make us receptive to your Spirit. Amen.

- from All the Seasons of Mercy

A brief period of silence is reserved for personal confession

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* THE PEACE

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee! HYMN TO JOY

Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus Which the morn-ing
stars be-gan; Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us,
Join-ing all in heav-en's plan. Ev-er sing-ing,
march we on-ward, Vic-tors in the midst of strife,
Joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward In the tri-umph song of life.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 2/2 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/2 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics: 'Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus Which the morn-ing'. The second staff continues the melody with lyrics: 'stars be-gan; Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us,'. The third staff has lyrics: 'Join-ing all in heav-en's plan. Ev-er sing-ing,'. The fourth staff has lyrics: 'march we on-ward, Vic-tors in the midst of strife,'. The fifth staff concludes the hymn with lyrics: 'Joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward In the tri-umph song of life.' The music ends with a double bar line.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON: *Isaiah 53:7-12* (PEW BIBLE, PAGE 684)

Reader: Genie Schwartz

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

A TIME FOR CHILDREN..... Lisa Witherspoon
(*Children ages 4 to 7 are invited to Worship Enrichment*)

ANTHEM: Just As I AmBob Chilcott (b. 1955)

Summer Choir

Just as I am, without one plea,
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou bid'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though toss'd about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings within and fears without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome pardon, cleanse, relieve,
Because thy promise I believe
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am (thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down;)
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love
The breadth, length, depth and height to prove,
Here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.

SECOND LESSON: *Mark 8:27-37* (PEW BIBLE, PAGES 43 AND 44)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: Expectations vs. RealityLara Musser Gritter

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN OF RESPONSE: No. 357 – O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee..... MARYTON

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH..... David Partington

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

**We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.**

Thanks be to God. Amen.
– from the United Church of Canada, "A New Creed"

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: Followers of the Lamb..... Philip Dietterich (b. 1931)
Summer Choir

O brethren ain't you happy, ye followers of the Lamb.
Sing on, dance on, followers of Emmanuel,
Sing on, dance on, followers of the Lamb.

O sisters ain't you happy, ye followers of the Lamb.
O sing on, dance on, followers of Emmanuel,
O sing on, dance on, followers of the Lamb.

O I'm glad I am a Christian, ye followers of the Lamb.
Sing on, dance on, followers of Emmanuel,
Sing on, dance on, followers of the Lamb.

O, I mean to be obedient, ye followers of the Lamb.
Sing on, dance on, followers of Emmanuel,
Sing on, dance on, followers of the Lamb.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

* BENEDICTION

Minister: Paul says, the Fruit of the Spirit is...

**All: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
May we live by the Spirit.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise ELLERS

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "Sav - ior, a - gain to Thy dear name we raise With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise. We stand to bless Thee ere our wor - ship cease; And, now de - part - ing, wait Thy word of peace." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

VOLUNTARY: Festival Voluntary Flor Peeters (1903-1986)
John Alexander, organ



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Lara Musser Gritter, Cynthia Price Pastoral Resident | *Doug McLeroy*, Parish Associate for Congregational Care | *David Partington*, Parish Associate for Congregational Care | *Lisa Witherspoon*, Associate Director of Children's Ministry | *Genie Schwartz*, Lay Reader | Robert Wells, Director of Chancel Choir | *John Alexander*, Director of Music and Principal Organist | *Summer Choir*

THIS MORNING IN REJOICE!

Rejoice!, our non-traditional service, takes place Sundays at 10:45 a.m. in Mullin Life Center, receiving the sermon via video link. Also leading Rejoice! today are:

Sid Batts, Senior Pastor | *Neil Dunnivant*, Executive Pastor & Associate for Outreach Ministry | *James Keith*, Associate Director of Music Ministry for Rejoice! | *Emily Witherspoon*, Lay Reader | *Rejoice! Band*

* Please stand as you are able.

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“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee!” Text: Jane Parker Huber; Music: John Zundel.

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” Text: Thomas Ken; Music: Geistliche Kirchengesäng.

“Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise” Text: John Ellerton; Music: Edward John Hopkins.

All the Seasons of Mercy is by Diane Karay, The Westminster Press ©1978.

THE LITURGICAL COLOR RED seen through the parament on the lectern and the pastors' stoles signifies the work of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost.

PENNIES FOR HUNGER: You are invited to place donations to our Pennies for Hunger offering in the baskets at sanctuary entrances before worship. Offering goes to Hot Dish & Hope and other specific FPC hunger initiatives

ABOUT TODAY'S FLOWERS: The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Dr. Steven R. Fore by his children, Susan, Katherine, Whitney, and Matthew.

ONE MORE FLOWER DATE AVAILABLE: You can honor or remember a friend or family member by donating flowers for our Sunday morning worship service in the Sanctuary. The flowers are accompanied by a note in the bulletin explaining their significance. December 31 is our remaining available date for this year. Contact Carolyn Yow, cyow@fpcgreensboro.org or 336-478-4768.

THE QUIET CENTER IS AVAILABLE AFTER SERVICES for anyone needing prayer or mediation. This prayer space is the first room on the right as you walk down the Smith Building hallway from the Tower Room (Smith 231). A pastor will be available. All prayer requests are confidential.

PASTOR ON CALL: When church offices are closed and you have an emergency, call (336) 908-8615. Leave a message with your phone number and the pastor on call will be in touch with you.

"LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY ...": First Presbyterian Church would like to pray for you. Please fill out one of the prayer requests in the bulletin in the Sanctuary, the Quiet Center on the second floor of the Smith Building, or the Mullin Life Center foyer outside of the Rejoice! worship service. Pastors read and pray these petitions each week. You may also email prayer requests to Dolly Jacobs, djacobs@fpcgreensboro.org. The FPC Intercessory Prayer Group meets Thursdays at 8 am in the Quiet Center, Smith 231. Contact Dolly Jacobs for more information or to join.

USHERS NEEDED for Sanctuary worship services! If you can help out on Sunday mornings, contact Anne Albert, aalbert@fpcgreensboro.org or 336-478-4711.

SIGN UP FOR EMAIL NEWS: You can sign up for our weekly E-News and our Thursday morning Sunday Preview at the link at fpcgreensboro.org/connect/our-media

DON'T ASSUME ... that the pastors know that you or other church members are in the hospital or home with a lengthy illness. Please call the church offices at (336) 373-0445 and let us know so that we can pray for and extend a hand in prayer and care.

EVERY SUNDAY, WE ALL CAN: We collect non-perishable food for our neighbors experiencing food hardship. Please join in this ministry by bringing food to church each week.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WORSHIP ENRICHMENT: We are in need of volunteers to teach Worship Enrichment during our 10:30 am service this year. Please contact Lisa Witherspoon (lwitherspoon@fpcgreensboro.org or 336-478-4726) if you are able to help out with this valuable experience.

OUR 10:30 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP SERVICE IS LIVE-STREAMED on the web, and can be accessed Sunday mornings at fpcgreensboro.org/streaming-live, or via our Facebook page. You can also sign up for reminders and alerts at livestream.com/fpcgreensboro, and you can stream the service on mobile devices by installing the Livestream app (free account sign-in required).

THE PARKING ASSISTANCE MINISTRY TEAM (PAM) has spaces on both sides of Greene Street reserved for our members and visitors with special needs. PAM volunteers can assist with guiding you to appropriate parking. If you are being driven to church, you may be dropped off at the Greene Street entrance while your driver parks.

OVERFLOW PARKING: Our neighbor Hanes Lineberry allows us to use its parking lot for overflow on Sunday mornings and other occasions. Please do not park there if you see yellow "Funeral Parking" signs at the access points; that means a service or event is scheduled at the funeral home.

IN MEMORIAM

Katherine Anderson Gladstone
August 29, 2017

WE WELCOME YOU to the worship of God and to our community of faith. We are a church of growing disciples believing that worship is at the center of all we are and do as Christians.

IF YOU ARE A VISITOR, we encourage you to wear a name tag, available in the blue Welcome notebooks on your pew.

VISITORS AND MEMBERS, please sign the attendance pad in the Welcome notebooks. We care about how folks are doing and try to pay attention when our members haven't worshiped with us in a while. And please note the names of others on your pew and say "Hello!"

FAMILIES can find comfortable seating, a nursing screen, and a live feed of the service in the Myers Loyalty Room behind the Sanctuary. Parents must supervise children.

IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN, we offer ways to make worship meaningful for them:

Nursery care is provided for infants through age 4 on the **first floor of Mullin Life Center**. Our Child Protection Policy helps ensure our care is safe, loving and appropriate.

Children in Worship bags: are now located on a cart in the Tower Room. Please come before worship and pick up a bag to fill with activities for your children to use during the service. Please return your bag to the cart following worship.

Worship Enrichment: After the children's message, ages 4 to 7 are invited to follow adult leaders to the Children's Space in the Welcome Center for Worship Enrichment. Following the service, parents pick up children in the Welcome Center.

Restrooms, including a family room, are located off the hallway behind the pulpit and chancel. We encourage young children to be accompanied by parents any time they leave the Sanctuary.



FIRST
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GREENSBORO, NC CHURCH

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First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro



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