

September 3, 2023
First Presbyterian Church
Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *Sarabande* Mendelssohn

Welcome and Announcements Elder John Joyce

We Worship Together

Call to Worship Elder John Joyce

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

Jesus said, "I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture."

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life."

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,

and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." (Verses from the gospel of John)

***Hymn 32** *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* ELLACOMBE

Invitation to Confession (the congregation is seated)

Friends, remember the scriptures which tell us, "*If we say that we have not sinned, the truth is not in us, and we deceive ourselves. If we confess our sins, our Lord is faithful and just to forgive us, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness*" [I John 1.8-9]. Let us pray together.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and Almighty God, you have called us, but we have hesitated to answer. You have invited us to a new life and lifestyle, but we are reluctant to change. You are asking us to give ourselves in ministries of care and compassion for needy people, but too often we are too concerned with our own welfare. Forgive us, O Lord. Fill us with your Spirit, the Spirit of the Risen Christ, anew today. Make us into the faithful, joyful followers of Jesus Christ that you intend us to be, for we pray in his name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, listen again to the good news. "*For God so loved the world that he gave us his only Son, so that whoever believes in him will not perish, but have everlasting life. For the Son came into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him*" {John 3.16-17}. *We are the world for whom Christ came, Christ died and Christ rose again.*

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***Holy Interruption** *We greet our neighbors in Christ's love*

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem *Pass It On* Kaiser
Chancel Choir

***Praise of God**

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Affirmation of Faith: The 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.

***Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen, Amen**

Message to the Children Mrs. Weiz Baker

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as
we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

***Hymn 406** *We Are Standing on Holy Ground* HOLY GROUND

We Receive God's Word

Scripture Exodus 3.1-15

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Message "The Great 'I AM'" Rev. Christa Brewer

We Go Out to Serve

***Hymn 65** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* CWM RHONDDA

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** *Freely, Freely* Owens

***Postlude** *Trumpet Tune* Young

*Those who are able, please stand as directed at the items marked with an asterisk

We welcome back the Rev. Christa Brewer, associate pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Myrtle Beach, as our guest preacher today. (Dr. Sansbury is away on vacation through September 11.) Christa is a graduate of Stanford University and Princeton Theological seminary, where she earned her Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Christian Education. She will graduate with her Doctor of Ministry degree this December from Columbia Theological Seminary. Aside from her ministry duties, she chairs the flute section of the North Myrtle Beach Community Concert Band and plays in a woodwind quintet. She is married to Rev. Barrett Ingram, pastor at Clarkton (NC) Presbyterian Church.

The Church This Week (9/3/2023)

Today	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Tues.	12:00 p.m.	At Ease Luncheon
	5:30 p.m.	Christian Education
Wed.	8:30 a.m.	MMO resumes
	10:00 a.m.	PW Bible Study
	3:00 p.m.	Fun Program resumes
	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir
	6:30 p.m.	Mission Outreach
Sun.	11:00 a.m.	Worship (State Park)

Prayer List as of September 3, 2023

Gerry & Bobby Rogers
 Ina Coggeshall
 Atha Lou Gibson
 Gray & Bea Sloop
 Bennie and Benny Lou Moore
 Beth O'Neal
 Bobbie Jones
 Keller Smith
 Gene Brymer

WELCOME to worship! We are glad that you have joined us today!

Join your Church family at Cheraw State Park **next Sunday, September 10**, for our outdoor Rally Day worship service! Rev. Gavin Meek, our executive presbyter of New Harmony Presbytery, will be our guest preacher. We will share in the sacrament of communion next Sunday. We will also share in a picnic lunch immediately following the worship service.

Our Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) continues its work of seeking our next installed pastor. Members are Cathy Chapman (Chair), Kristen Miller, Katelyn Evans, Christie McLeod, John Long and Calvin Phillips. The congregation is asked to pray for our PNC throughout the pastoral search process.

The Youth Coordinator Search Committee members are Kelli Beck (chair), Kristen Miller, Katelyn Evans, Tammy Joyce, Eva Goddard and Craig Goddard. Please remember our search team in your prayers. Also, send your suggestions for this part-time position to our committee members.

The elders have called for a CONGREGATIONAL MEETING during worship on Sunday, September 17, for the purpose of forming a new Officer Nominating Committee. Two current elders, Dan Tillman and Cathy Chapman, and one Presbyterian Women representative, Becky Childers, will be on the Committee, according to church policy. The congregation will be asked to vote for Cam Beck and Richard Pierce as the two at-large representatives to the ONC. All active members present in worship on the 17th are entitled to vote at the congregational meeting.

Copies of the Fun Program Registration Form/FPC Photo Release Form for 2023/2024 are on the table in the Narthex.

Our church is growing and we are so excited. The number of children attending nursery during worship has increased and we need your help! We ask that **any adult** who is willing to keep the nursery during worship, please sign up at the link listed below. We ask that **parents** with a young child attending nursery, please help us by signing up for a Sunday every other month. Thank you for your willingness to volunteer in our nursery.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0545af22ab9-nursery#/>

NEW--Pastor's Pals! NEW activities are now available in the narthex for children ages 1st grade & up who remain during the service! Worksheets, games, and fun activities are provided for our little ones in a canvas bag labeled "Pastor's Pals" located in the narthex. Just pick one up before the service and enjoy! We ask that you neatly place all items back in their respective bags and return to its proper place after the service so that other kids can enjoy the following week. An engaging, interactive worksheet is available for those children who pay special attention to the service. Just fill it out and see Dr. Dan after church for a prize!



The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. For individuals with hearing aids, please activate your T-coil to utilize this feature. Spare headsets are also available.

We need a few more Preschool Sunday School teachers to share the rotation! Only three Sundays this fall are unaccounted for, so we are asking for coverage for these dates: 9/24, 11/26, & 12/24. Nothing is more important than educating our children to know Christ. Please prayerfully consider and contact Weiz if you are willing. A fantastic, simple lesson-guide, and fun activity booklets are provided. Thank you for meeting the needs of our children's ministry.

The Church Staff

Dr. Dan Sansbury, Interim Pastor	Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE
Mrs. Carolyn S. West, Secretary	
Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton	Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director MMO
Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper	Mrs. Paige Coates, MMO
Mrs. Mary Gulledege, Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery	Mrs. Sally Powell, MMO

Mission Partners

Mr. Mark Hare/ Mrs. Jenny Bent, Costa Rica
Mrs. Ellen Smith, (mission co-worker) Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Poland



Our Vision

***Rooted by God's Grace,
Growing in the Spirit,
Reaching Out with Christ's Love***

Sunday, September 3, 2023

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