



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 5, 2020

10 o'clock

VISION

Nourished by God's Word and Sacraments,

All: Connecting lives to Christ.

PENNIES FOR HUNGER

PRELUDE

“Sing a New Song unto the Lord”

Howard Harrell

INTROIT

“Morning Has Broken”

Joyce Crutchfield

Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird.

Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Zechariah 9:9-12

Come and celebrate, people of God! Sing and shout your praise!

For our God comes to us: triumphant and victorious, yet gentle and humble of heart.

He comes bringing peace, offering hope and freedom to all who despair.

Let's worship God together!

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Gracious God, in times of weakness and in hours of need, yours is the strength by which we carry on, the shoulder on which we find rest. When our load is heavy and too much to bear, yours are the arms stretched out to help us, you are the grace that we depend on. Your voice calls to us, “Come... find rest.” This is divine grace, the path we tread to wholeness of body and spirit, the path that leads to you, and for which we offer our praise.

*HYMN

#611

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

verse 1

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

Jesus said, “Come to me, all you who are tired, who are worn out from carrying heavy burdens. Put down the heavy load that you are carrying, and you will find rest for your souls.” Let us, together, lay down the burdens of our sins and find rest in the grace and love of Christ.

**Please stand as you are able.*

Almighty God, we confess that we don't always understand our own actions. We clearly know what is right—what you expect of us—but we don't always do it. We also clearly know what is wrong—the thoughts and actions that hurt others and offend you—but we do these things anyway. Forgive us. Set us free from the sin that controls us. Help us to live into your grace so that we can be the people you created us to be.

Silent Prayer

Have mercy on us, O God. Amen.

KYRIE

(Hymn #576)

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us.

Water is poured into the font.

Our God is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry, and filled with unfailing love. When we stumble, God is there to catch us; when we are weighed down, God is there to lift us up. Trust in the good news of the Gospel - in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Rev. Wes Pitts

*GLORIA PATRI

(Hymn #581)

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

Joyce Crutchfield

I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me; in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me; when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

SERMON

“The Yoke”

Rev. Wes Pitts

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Invitation to silent prayer, a meditation with music, then intercessions are offered;

...We join our voices in the prayer Christ taught us to pray:

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 #169 "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" verses 1, 4

Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways;
re clothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.

Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.

*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.

GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY "Abide with Me with Chopin's Etude, Op. 10, No. 3" Howard Harrell

*DOXOLOGY (Hymn #606)

*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 OF OFFERINGS

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S TABLE

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The Lord be with you. **And also with you.***

*Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.***

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

...Therefore, we join our voices in singing: (Hymn #552)

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.***

...for great is the mystery of faith:

(Hymn #560)

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

...

PREPARING THE BREAD AND CUP

...*The gifts of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!*

COMMUNION BY INTINCTION

We share in the Lord's table at 2 stations, receiving the bread and dipping it into the cup.

Please raise your hand if you wish to receive communion at your seat.

PRAAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*RESPONSE AFTER COMMUNION

Let us sing of our faith:

(Hymn #405)

***Praise God for this holy ground, place and people, sight and sound.
Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah! God's goodness is eternal.***

*HYMN #824

“There Is a Place of Quiet Rest”

verses 1, 3

There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God,
a place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.

O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,
hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.

There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God,
a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.

O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,
hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING RESPONSE

(to the tune of America the Beautiful)

O God, whose heart compassionate bears every human pain.
Redeem this violent, wounding world till Gentleness Shall Reign.

O God of mercy, Christ of love, please hear our prayer today.
Bring love to all humanity and peace to earth again.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

2 – Will Cresenzo
7 – Kayla Craig Lawson
13 – Sandy Harlow
15 – Emma Crabtree
15 – Betsy Slaydon
15 – Claire Smothers

16 – Buddy Briggs
18 – Will McLeod III
20 – Sallie Trent
21 – Betty Jones
21 – Peg Slaydon
22 – Mark Brisson
25 – Ken Norman

25 – Elinor Lane Young
29 – Stephen Brisson
30 – Anne Covington
31 – Anne Dell Cannon
31 – Fraysure Fulton
31 – Christyn Trent

SERVING IN JULY

Communion Servers

TBA

Ushers

TBA

Greeters

TBA

Door Keepers

TBA

LOCAL MISSION OFFERINGS

Pennies for Hunger:

JUNE

\$72.19

Year-To-Date

576.15

The Pennies for Hunger offering, collected on the first Sunday of each month, supports feeding ministries throughout central North Carolina, with 50% of our collection staying in Rockingham County and supporting the Reidsville Outreach Center. The other 50% is distributed by Salem Presbytery through grants to non-profit organizations that work to alleviate hunger in their communities.

Habitat for Humanity:

JUNE

\$55.15

Year-To-Date

\$287.76

The Habitat offering, collected on the third Sunday of each month, supports the Greater Reidsville chapter of Habitat for Humanity in its mission to build and improve homes in the Reidsville area so that all may have access to safe and affordable housing.

SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Wes Pitts

Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
Mark Cresenzo <i>Mission</i>	Tilda Balsley <i>Grounds</i>	Ed Conroy <i>Clerk</i>
Joyce Crutchfield <i>Newcomers/Communication</i>	Tom Callicutt <i>Montreat</i>	Scott Greene <i>Personnel</i>
Rick McKinney <i>Property</i>	Phil Neal <i>Fellowship</i>	Jane Harrill <i>Caregivers</i>
	Becky Norman <i>Worship</i>	Jim Murray <i>Christian Education</i>
	Thomas Thompson <i>Finance</i>	

Upcoming Session Meeting: TBA

CAREGIVERS TEAM

Jane Harrill – Chair

Class of 2020: Anne Covington, Mary Fagan, Sallie Trent

Class of 2021: Susie Cole, Jenny Farver, Denice Whitley

Class of 2022: Susan McLeod, Pat Gates & Robert Moreno, Lynn Wilkins

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please be in prayer for the following:

Church members: Lucy Byers, Tom Callicutt, Sandra Craig, Anne Dell Hardingham, Betty Jones, Bob Mullings, Faye Pierce, Debbie Robbins, family of Frances Robinson, Claire Smothers, Fred & Lynn Wilkins, Brad Young

Family and friends of the congregation: Carl Wayne Adams, Steve Banks, Waddell Bullock, Evelyn Cogan, Chad Davis, Talea Dillard, Don Ella Drew, Cindy Farrand, Treva Garrison, Carole Hendrix Grady, Charlotte Kearns, The Kimbrough family, Madeline McDowell, Jillian McInnis, Joe Mountjoy, Bobbie Nauman, Geoff Peoples, Jimmy Rayburn, Si Rothrock, Michael Serra, Junior Setliff, Dana Smith, Hailey Vega, Jimmy Waynick, Joan Young

Military service: Seth Brooks, Don Pierce

If you have submitted names for our prayer list, and know of their recovery, please contact us with the good news!

What is Coronavirus or COVID-19 ?

COVID-19 is a new disease that first appeared in late 2019 in Wuhan, China. COVID-19 is caused by a novel member of the coronavirus family — SARS-CoV-2 — that's a close cousin to the SARS and MERS viruses that have caused outbreaks in the past.

There is still much to learn about the disease. Globally, about 3.4% of people infected with COVID-19 have died. At greater risk are people with chronic health conditions and the elderly. For perspective, flu cases currently dwarf the number of COVID-19 cases, although the death rate is less than .1%.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Symptoms of COVID-19, caused by novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, include respiratory illness with fever, cough, and difficulty breathing. In more severe cases, it can cause pneumonia and severe acute respiratory syndrome.

Can COVID-19 be treated?

Like the common cold, there is no specific medicine recommended to prevent or treat COVID-19. But people infected should receive appropriate care to relieve and treat symptoms, and those with severe illness should receive medical care.

How can I protect myself and my loved ones?

The World Health Organization has the following recommendations for the general public to reduce exposure to and transmission of a range of illnesses:

- Frequently clean your hands by using an alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a flexed elbow or tissue. Then throw the tissue away immediately and wash your hands.
- Avoid close contact with anyone who has a fever and cough.
- If you have a fever, cough, and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early and share your travel history with your healthcare provider.
- Avoid the consumption of raw or undercooked animal products. Handle raw meat, milk, and animal organs with care to avoid cross-contamination with uncooked foods, per good food safety practices.

Today's Announcements

Elder on Call: Scott Greene is available for congregational needs this week.

Pennies for Hunger will be received today, July 5.

The Church Office will be closed Monday, July 6.

In order to allow for public worship, even outdoors, we're asking the congregation and friends to follow these safety procedures:

- Wear a mask or face covering at all times. If you do not have one, we will have some to give to who might be in need. Please remember that wearing a face mask helps prevent the spread of viruses to others. Even if you are not feeling badly, you may still be carrying the virus without knowing it and wearing a mask keeps everyone healthier.
- Bring your own chair if you are able. If you don't have one, we will have plenty on site that can be sanitized for your use.
- Abide by social distancing guidelines at all times. Chairs must be placed 6 feet from one another (families may sit together, but anyone outside of your household is asked to be 6 feet away). We'll have ushers help remind us of the distance.
- Restrooms are available on site, but we discourage using them except for emergencies because we're not able to sanitize them between each use.
- We will not be able to celebrate the Lord's Supper at this time. We discussed the issue at length, and we could not come up with a way to share the sacrament safely while upholding it's meaning in the life of our faith, so we've opted to remove it for the time being. The liturgy will remain in the bulletin as a reminder for us of the sacrament.
- We will not be passing the offering plate and will instead have an offering box available. We'll continue to have a space for the offering and an offertory, but you are encouraged to drop tithes/offerings in the box before or after the service, or to continue to use the mail.
- The congregation is asked not to sing - the act of singing spreads virus and other germs much farther than speaking, so the choir will be doing all the singing. Plus it's mighty difficult to sing while wearing a face mask!

Some of these measures might feel too rigid or unnecessary, but please remember that they are to protect the most vulnerable in our congregation and in our community.

Wes Pitts, Pastor 678-409-5060
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