



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA

MAY 28, 2023
PENTECOST

We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING MUSIC

HYMN TO JOY
Carillon Ringers

McCHESNEY

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We are gathered in one place to call on the name of the Lord:

All: come, Holy Spirit, come!

One: We are members of one body, calling out, in Jesus' name:

All: come, Holy Spirit, come!

One: Let us worship the glorified Lord!

All: Let us worship the God of Spirit and Life!

✦HYMN 280

COME, O SPIRIT, DWELL AMONG US

EBENEZER

✦CALL TO CONFESSION

✦PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with a flaming desire, to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

(silence for personal prayer and reflection)

✦ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Through Christ, God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon us for the forgiveness of sins. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God, and amen.

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Ministries of the Diaconate

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER ERDE

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

NUMBERS 11:24-30; JOHN 7:37-39

SECOND LESSON

ACTS 2:1-21

SERMON

"What have you been drinking?"

REV. DR. CHRISTOPHER ERDE

RESPONDING

SILENT REFLECTION

✠ **HYMN 408**

THERE'S A SWEET, SWEET, SPIRIT

SWEET, SWEET, SWEET

✠ **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 sits 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.**

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

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.**

OFFERING

Please sign and pass the friendship register on your pew during this time.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

GRACIOUS SPIRIT, DWELL WITH ME
Sanctuary Choir

K. LEE SCOTT

✦ CELEBRATION OF GIVING

HYMN 607

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

✦ HYMN 300

WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

✦ INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

✦ BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY

FESTIVAL POSTLUDE

ZIPOLI

STATEMENT OF WELCOME

As a community of those who are actively seeking ways to continue:

... writing a new chapter in an old story ...

First Presbyterian Church of Aiken extends a simple and unqualified welcome, in Christ's name, to all who seek to join us. We affirm that there can be no exclusiveness within the body of Christ, and therefore we invite all children of God into our worship, study, mission, and fellowship as we together seek ways to live in grace and respond with gratitude.

WORSHIP NOTES

The flowers are given to the glory of God and dedicated today to show appreciation to the many caregivers, Prompt Care, Emergency Room, and Aiken Regional Hospital, who attended to me during my recent illness. They handled the indignities presented to them without complaint and with professionalism. Thanks to every one of you, Bruce and Maxine Eberhard.

Liturgist/Lay Reader: Mike Kucharski

Head Usher: Richard and Kim Abney

Large print hymnals, bulletins, and wireless assisted hearing receivers are available from any usher.

Childcare is available during worship for our youngest members ages infant to 5 years old. Room 6 is for ages 0-2 and room 8 is for ages 3-5.

Worship Bags are available in the Narthex for children through 5th grade.

Offering system



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mustard Seed Garden - Please help our garden grow! This Sunday, May 28th is the last worship service that the Mustard Seed Garden team will have their NEW notecards available to purchase (outside by the MSG); however, they will continue to be available to purchase online while supplies last!

- Each box contains 10 cards
- 2 cards of each design
- Cost \$15.00 a box
- Payment can be made online or in-person by cash or check (please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church; memo: MSG Ministry)

Graduate Recognition Sunday - We will be celebrating our Seniors on Sunday, June 4th during the 10:30 AM worship service. We would love for members of the congregation to write blessings, affirmations, and words of encouragement on slips of paper and insert them into the "Blessing Jars" for each of the graduates that will be located on the table in the Narthex for the remainder of May. Please take the time to consider some special words you would like to share with this year's graduates: Tucker Crenshaw ~ Ben Dugan ~ Brandon Luther ~ Zachary Patterson ~ Luke Williams

Pastor Installation - There will be a special worship service on Sunday, June 4th at 5:00 PM as Rev. Dr. Christopher Erde is officially installed as Pastor of FPCA. Rev. Dr. Jeri Perkins will participate in the service and a reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to join in this celebration!

Summer Choir - Please note that our Summer Choir practice begins June 4th and will be held every 1st and 3rd Sunday at 9:45 AM in the Choir Room to prepare for Sunday worship. (NO summer handbells).

Summer Sunday School - Please join us in the Church Parlor for a new intergenerational Sunday School class, starting on Sunday, June 4th at 9:30 AM.

This lectionary class is discussion-based and will follow the Revised Common Lectionary Bible passages that are used during the worship service each Sunday. We will examine the texts, and also look at the context and history, in order to increase our understanding and prepare for the worship service. The same texts are used as the basis for the music, liturgy, and sermon each week.

Stephen Ministers - On Sunday, June 11th, our congregation will commission four Stephen Ministers. These dedicated people have been training for four months and are ready to begin their caring ministry among us here at FPCA. We thank God for all our Stephen Ministers and pray that God will bless their ministries.

What's Happening This Week:

Sunday, May 28, 2023

- 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM Nursery
- 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship
- 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM Church Picnic

Monday, May 29, 2023

- 09:00 AM - 3:00 PM OFFICE CLOSED
- 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Tai Chi
- 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM Pickleball

Tuesday, May 30, 2023

- 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Family Promise
- 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM Pickleball

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

- 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Tai Chi
- 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Celestial Circle

Thursday, June 1, 2023

- 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM Pickleball
- 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM Stephen Ministry training
- 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Mission Committee

Friday, June 2, 2023

- 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Tai Chi
- 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM OFFICE CLOSED SUMMER HOURS

Sunday, June 4, 2023

- 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM Covenant Group Kucharski
- 9:15 AM - 11:30 AM Nursery
- 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Summer Sunday School
- 9:45 AM - 10:15 AM Summer Choir
- 10:00 AM - 01:30 PM Graduate reception
- 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship
- 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Indoor Futsal
- 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Pastor Installation
- 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Men's Basketball

CHURCH OFFICERS AND STAFF

STAFF	TRUSTEES	THE SESSION	THE BOARD OF DEACONS
Pastor/Head of Staff	Rev. Dr. Christopher Erde	Susan Budney, <i>Clerk</i>	Class of 2025 Robin Callicott Chuck Dynarski Jennifer Feraldi Katie Kucharski Jerry Shumpert Chick Warner
Director of Operations and Media	Joanna Hamilton	Rev. Dr.	Class of 2026 Trey Brown
Director of Music	Daniel Hamilton	Christopher Erde, <i>Moderator</i>	Suzanne McLeod Melissa Patterson Graham Reynolds Wayne Rickman
Organist/Accompanist	Kathy Clark	Class of 2024 Kim Abney	Class of 2025 Dave Clerc
Preschool Director	Mary Maddrey	Susan Budney	Mary Fran Crook
Financial Secretary	Debby Dugan	Mike Loftus	Kathy Kent
Administrative Assistant	Sharon Stone	Paula Luther	Class of 2026 Alicia Nyerges Anne Elkins Barbara Bower
Interim Youth Coordinator	Mary Fran Crook	Robert Girardeau Jr.	
Interim Director of Finance	Cassie Buchanan	Bailey Shafer	
		Mary Helen Simons	

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