



# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA

JANUARY 16, 2022  
2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

## GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING MUSIC

CHORALE AND VARIATION

Young

CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Micah 6 and Hosea 5

*One: With what shall we come before the Lord,  
and bow before God on high?*

**All: God has told us what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of us  
but to do justice,  
and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?**

*One: In what spirit are we ushered into the presence of the Holy One?*

**All: With justice rolling down like waters,  
and righteousness like an everflowing stream.**

*One: Let us worship God!*

✦HYMN 12

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

ST. DENIO

CALL TO CONFESSION

✦PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, we boldly proclaim that your Son our Savior Jesus Christ  
is the light of the world.**

**We confess that we spend much time consumed by the darkness around us.  
We may even contribute to its oppressive spirit with our own grim attitudes.  
Forgive us, Lord.**

**May we your people, illumined by your Word made flesh,  
shine with the radiance of his glory,  
that he may be known and worshipped to the ends of the earth.  
We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

*(silence for personal prayer and reflection)*

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✦Please rise in body or spirit.

**On those who sit in darkness the sun begins to rise,  
the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes.  
God guides the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace.  
O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!<sup>1</sup>**

✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

## THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 62:1-5

SECOND LESSON

John 8:1-11

SERMON

"Dismantling MY Structural Racism" The Rev. Conley Zomermaand

## RESPONDING

SILENT REFLECTION

✠HYMN 733

WE ALL ARE ONE IN MISSION

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

✠AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *The Confession of Belhar*

**We believe:**

- **that God has revealed Godself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;**
- **that God calls the church to follow God in this, for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;**
- **that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;**
- **that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.**

**This we believe; help our unbelief. Amen.**

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

**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**

*Financial offerings can be placed in the plates as you exit or given online.  
Please sign and pass the friendship register on your pew during this time.*

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**

**FEED MY LAMBS**  
Sanctuary Choir

**Sleeth**

**✠ 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.<sup>2</sup>**

**✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SENDING**

**✠ HYMN 300 (v. 2)**

**WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT**

**THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS**

**We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;  
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,  
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.<sup>3</sup>**

**✠ INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP**

**✠ BENEDICTION**

**VOLUNTARY**

**PRELUDE IN F MAJOR**

**Bach**

## 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

Liturgist: Margot Salzman

Head Usher: Brad Kuhn

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

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Childcare is available during worship for our youngest members ages infant to 5 years old. We ask you to escort your children directly to the childcare rooms before heading into worship. Room 6 will be for ages 0-2 and room 8 will be for ages 3-5. Due to Covid protocol, no snacks will be provided at this time. Families may bring a labeled water bottle if needed.

Worship Packets are available in the narthex for children through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Please take one per child, and take it home with you after worship.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES** — Please look for your envelopes on the table in the narthex. They will be available in the narthex for pickup through January 23.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** — Sunday School classes meet at 9:00 a.m. and currently include:

- *The Me I Want to Be: Becoming God's Best Version of You* in the Conference Room
- A study about the themes of Justice using a variety of Old Testament passages in Room 26
- *Philippians: Six Themes Everyone Should Know* in the Fellowship Hall
- A study of Elijah and the mystery of God's silence in Room 32

**ACTS** — During January, we are collecting grits, oatmeal, and cereal. Looking ahead, February's item is complete canned meals (e.g. beef stew).

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS** — If you are interested in signing up to provide flowers for our sanctuary on a Sunday in 2022, please email Zoe Andrews at [zoea@aikenpresbyterian.org](mailto:zoea@aikenpresbyterian.org) or call the church office.

## CHURCH OFFICERS AND STAFF

STAFF	TRUSTEES	THE SESSION	THE BOARD OF DEACONS	
Interim Pastor/Head of Staff	Conley Zomermaand	Susan Budney, <i>Clerk</i>	<b>Class of 2023</b> Phyllis Britt	<b>Class of 2022</b> Corey Feraldi
Pastor for Connectional Communities	Terry Wimberley	Conley Zomermaand, <i>Moderator</i>	Brenda Guerry	Burt Starks
Director of Music	Daniel Hamilton		Barb Magrath	Chick Warner, Chair
Director of Purposeful Education	Andrea Paschal		Frank Townsend	
Director of Operations	Chris Jolicoeur-Smith		Lindsay Tucker	
Program Ministry Assistant/Creative Specialist	Joanna Hamilton	<b>Class of 2022</b> Bobby Calfee		<b>Class of 2023</b> Lestine Bush
Organist/Accompanist	Kathy Clark	Andrew Guerry	<b>Class of 2024</b> Kim Abney	Janice Cadwallader
Preschool Director	Mary Maddrey	Terry Montgomery	Susan Budney	Jean Covington
Publications Specialist	Anna Derr	Andy Ploeger	Mike Loftus	
Financial Secretary	Debby Dugan	Ashby Reynolds	Paula Luther	<b>Class of 2024</b> Jeana Carter
Administrative Assistant	Zoë Andrews	Vic Sowers	Bailey Shafer	Liz Cox
		Hugh Verenes	Mary Helen Simons	Bob Hinds

*We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation.*