

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
6th Sunday after Epiphany

February 12, 2023

11:00 AM

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

GATHERING

Prelude "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" (Berry) David Thompson

Call to Worship (Psalm 119:1-8) Mimi McCully

One: You're blessed when you stay on course,
walking steadily on the road revealed by God.

**Many: You're blessed when you follow God's directions,
doing your best to find God.**

One: You don't go off on your own;
you walk straight along the road God set.

**Many: God has prescribed the right way to live;
now, O God, you expect us to live it.**

One: Keep our steps steady, Lord,
keeping to the course you set;

**Many: Then we'll never have any regrets
in comparing our lives with your counsel.**

One: From God we learn the pattern of righteous ways.

Many: Loving God, don't ever walk off and leave us.

***Hymn of Praise #610** "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

***Call to Confession** Mimi McCully

***Prayer of Confession**
Almighty God,
you teach us your ways, calling us into community,
but we turn away to other paths.
We quarrel with one another,
letting differences divide us.
We put other things in your place,
and shut off our hearts
from forgiveness and reconciliation.
In ten words, you showed us the way to live,
but we have taken your loving commandments
and turned them into mere rules to obey.
The law showed the way to your love and freedom.
Forgive us for turning your law into burdens
for others and ourselves,
We pray in the name of Christ, Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**
One: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our
sins on his body that we might be dead to sin and alive to all that is
good. Friends, believe the good news!
Many: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***Gloria Patri #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, amen.

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon on the Steps Carrie Wyatt

Anthem "A Gladsome Hymn of Praise" (Southern Harmony) Chancel Choir
A gladsome hymn of praise we sing, And thankfully we gather
To bless the love of God above, Our everlasting Father.
From shades of night He calls the light, And from the sod the flower;
From every cloud His blessings break In sunshine or in shower.
Full in His sight His children stand, By His strong arm defended;
And He, whose wisdom guides the world, Our footsteps hath attended.
For nothing falls unknown to Him Or care, or joy, or sorrow;
And He whose mercy ruled the past, Will be our stay tomorrow.
Then praise the Lord with one accord, To His great name give glory;
And of His never changing love, Repeat the wondrous story!
In Him rejoice with heart and voice, Whose glory fadeth never,
Whose providence is our defence, Who lives and loves forever.

First Reading Deuteronomy 30:15-20 (Pew Bible OT p.186)

Second Reading Matthew 5:21-37 (Pew Bible NT p.4)
One: The Word of God, for us, the people of God.
Many: Thanks be to God.

Sermon from the Pulpit "Halakhah and Torah" Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith** (A Declaration of Faith, 6.3)
Led by the Spirit of God
the people of Israel and of the early church
preserved and handed on the story
of what God had said and done in their midst
and how they had responded to God.
These traditions were often shaped and reshaped
by the uses to which the community put them.
They were cherished, written down, and collected
as the holy literature of the people of God.
Through the inward witness of the same Spirit
we acknowledge the authority of the Bible.
We accept the Old and New Testaments as the canon,
or authoritative standard of faith and life,
to which no further writings need be added.
The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments
are necessary, sufficient, and reliable
as witnesses to Jesus Christ, the living Word.
We must test any word that comes to us
from church, world, or inner experience
by the Word of God in Scripture.
We are subject to its judgment –
all our understanding of doctrine and practice.
We believe the Bible to be the Word of God
as no other word written by human beings.

Prayers of the People concluding with the Lord's Prayer

Service of Giving

Offertory "O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee" (arr. Wyrzten) Jim Simmons

***Doxology #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**

***Hymn #313** "Lord, Make Us More Holy"

***Charge and Benediction** Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

***Postlude** "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (Chesterton) Rita Harmon

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*\*Please stand, in body or in spirit.*

The flowers for worship today are given for the glory of God and in honor of  
Matthew Wheeler's birthday by The Wheeler family.

**Please remember in prayer:**  
Ashley Warmoth; Ken & Ann Byers; Henry Lewis; Nicholas Parker; Bobby  
Westmoreland; Bill Wheeler; Peggy Miller; Anna Cox; Steve Beheler;  
Confirmation Class: Layla Lemmonds, Taylor Miller & Leah Miller; Confirmation  
Sponsors: Michelle Jolly, Hazel Hubbard, & Becky Wheeler.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Sunday School Offering** for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter will be donated to Smile Train.

**Next week's lectionary readings are:**  
Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9.

**Contribution Statements**  
Contribution statements for 2022 have either been e-mailed or are available in  
the narthex. If you did not receive yours, please contact Jim Watts or the  
church office.

**Circle Meeting**  
Circle #1 will have its February meeting on February 14th at 10:30 AM in the  
church parlor. Our minister Lynn Miller will lead the Bible study, "Celebrating  
Sabbath: Lesson 5, Sabbath and Servitude." Everyone is invited to come for  
this study and fellowship.

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

### Souper Bowl of Caring

Since the NFL is in playoff games, we know that we are getting close to Super Bowl Sunday. Continuing our annual tradition, we will collect cans and money for the Souper Bowl of Caring fundraiser on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>.

This year our Confirmation Class is sponsoring this event and they are asking for your support. Please bring canned food or financial donations to church on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> to donate to the 2023 Tackle Hunger/Souper Bowl of Caring project. The food and the money will stay in the Gaffney community to help feed local needy families. Thanks for helping us tackle this problem!

### Large Print Bulletin

Would it be helpful for you to have a large print bulletin on Sunday? Please call the church office to express your interest.

### Bible 101

During Lent, Lynn will be leading a Bible study on **Tuesday** evenings (February 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4). The study will be an overview of the Bible -- what's in it and where, how it came to be, why it matters, how to study it, and more. It will be a quick trip in just five weeks, but you'll get tools and insights that will help you dig deeper on your own. And you might get a couple of songs to help you learn the books of the Bible in order.

### Upcoming for Lent

Several resources will be available to you in the coming weeks to help you make the season of Lent a meaningful one. Bible readings, calendars, notes about upcoming programs and more will be provided. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 22, 2023.

### Sunday, February 12

9:45 AM Confirmation Class – Parlor  
9:45 AM Children's Sunday School  
10:15 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live

### Monday, February 13

5:30 PM Girl Scouts  
5:45 PM Handbell Rehearsal – Handbell Room  
6:30 PM Bible Study – FLC

### Tuesday, February 14

10:30 AM Circle 1 – Parlor

### Wednesday, February 15

6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper – FLC

### Sunday, February 19

9:45 AM Confirmation Class – Parlor  
9:45 AM Children's Sunday School  
10:15 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live  
12:30 PM Session Meeting – Conference Room

### Upcoming

Feb 21 – Meeting of Foothills Presbytery  
Feb 21 – Fat Tuesday  
Feb 22 – Ash Wednesday (no supper)  
Feb 24-25 – Meeting of Synod of South Atlantic  
March 2 – Circle 4  
March 14 – Circle 1

## NEXT STEPS

- Make reservation for Wednesday Night Supper
- Review a book from our Library
- Bring donations for Souper Bowl
- Pick up a hard copy of the LimeLight
- Respond to Soup Kitchen sign ups. (See LimeLight)

## BIRTHDAYS

February 12 – Matthew Wheeler  
February 14 – Dean Wyatt  
February 17 – Mekayla Bagwell  
February 18 – Butch Jarman  
February 18 – Bettina Cline

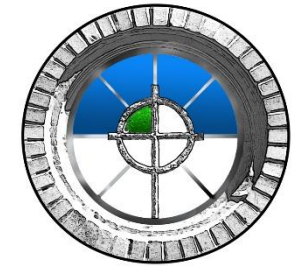
## STAFF

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QR code for electronic contributions:



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**LIMESTONE**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PC(USA)

WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF A LOVING GOD,  
GATHERING, GROWING, GIVING, AND GOING TO SERVE,  
TOGETHER



Grant Wood. *New Road*. 1939. Washington, DC: National Gallery of Art.

There is a day when the road neither comes nor goes,  
and the way is not a way but a place. --Wendell Berry.