

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
7th Sunday after Pentecost

July 16, 2023

11:00 AM

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

GATHERING

Prelude “March from the Third Organ Symphony” (Widor) Rita Harmon

Call to Worship Dean Wyatt

Come, let us worship the Lord our God,
The Lord is our God, and we are God’s people.
As we wait upon the Lord, let us open our ears,
that we might hear and heed the word of God.
As we wait upon the Lord, let us open our eyes,
that we might see and perceive the will of God.
As we wait upon the Lord, let us open our hearts.
**that we might understand with our hearts
and turn to God for abundant life.**
Come, let us worship the Lord our God!

***Hymn of Praise #35** “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

***Call to Confession** Dean Wyatt

***Prayer of Confession**
Holy God, your word can be a lamp to our feet
And a light to our path.
But too often, our earthly lives
do not show our desire for spiritual things.
Forgive us, Lord, when our hearts are hard,
and we seek our own good above other things.
Forgive us, Lord, when our minds are shallow
and we look to satisfy ourselves in the moment
rather than satisfying your requirements for us.
Forgive us, Lord, when we surround ourselves with too much,
and your word is choked out by everyday cares.
Forgive us, we pray, and make our hearts ready.
And hear the sins we now name silently...

***Assurance of Pardon**
Friends, believe the good news.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

***Assurance of Pardon Response #447**
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon on the Steps Carrie Wyatt

Anthem “Come, Come Unto Me” (Dosso) Chancel Choir
Come, come unto Me, all you who are weary, all who are weak, tired and lonely.
Come, come unto Me. Strong arms will enfold and lift you up.
Oh, come unto Me. Come, come unto Me. Bring all your burdens.
Show Me your wounds and I’ll soothe them. Oh, come, come unto Me.
Come and drink, now of My goodness, and rest your soul. Oh, come unto Me.
All are invited; there’s none who aren’t welcome to know of My comfort and peace.
My arms are opened and My voice is calling to come, simply trust and believe.
Oh, come, come unto Me. Live with Me forever. All those who seek Me will find Me!
Oh, come, come unto Me. Come and strong arms will enfold you, and lift you up.
Oh, come unto Me. I’ll lift you up, oh, come unto Me!

First Reading Romans 8:1-11 (Pew Bible NT p.157)
Second Reading Genesis 25:19-34 (Pew Bible OT p.21)
The Word of God, for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon from the Pulpit “The Manse at Nuenen” Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith** (A Declaration of Faith, 3.1)
**To the world in its rebellion and alienation
God promised blessing and restoration.
The Lord chose Abraham and his descendants
as bearers of that promise for all peoples.
They had done nothing more than others
to deserve the Lord’s favor,
but God loved them and they became God’s own.
We acknowledge God’s freedom and grace.
Though we are unworthy,
We are made God’s own in Christ.
God has chosen us as servants for the sake of the world
and destined us to be God’s children,
giving us love and life,
calling us to worship and honor God.**

***Affirmation of Faith Response #582**
**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,
whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen**

Prayers of the People concluding with the Lord’s Prayer (page 35 in hymnal)

Service of Giving

Offertory “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee” (Wolaver) David Thompson

***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 #65** “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

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

***Postlude** “Festive Voluntary” (Clark) Rita Harmon

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

The floral arrangement in worship today is given for the glory of God and in memory of Dean’s father, Roy Wiseman, by Dean & Renee Wiseman.

**Please remember in prayer:**  
Tacara Long; Peggy Miller; Harold Wood; Sara Setzer; John Paul Hyche;  
Margaret Moeller; Hugh Fincher; Fran Ross; Peggy Wyatt; Buck Jolley; Justina Eddy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Next week’s lectionary readings are:**  
Genesis 28:19-34; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.

**Ready! Set! Go!**  
On Wednesday, July 19 we will be decorating t-shirts & doing bake & take.

**Please remember:** all announcements/information for the bulletin and/or newsletter must be emailed or turned into the church office **before 8am** on Thursdays to be included.

THIS WEEK IN CHURCH HISTORY

**July 19, 64:** Fire breaks out among the shops lining the Circus Maximus, Rome’s chariot stadium. Nero is blamed and tries to deflect blame from himself onto Jews and Christians, soon conducting a full scale persecution of Christians, notorious for the cruelty with which it is carried on.

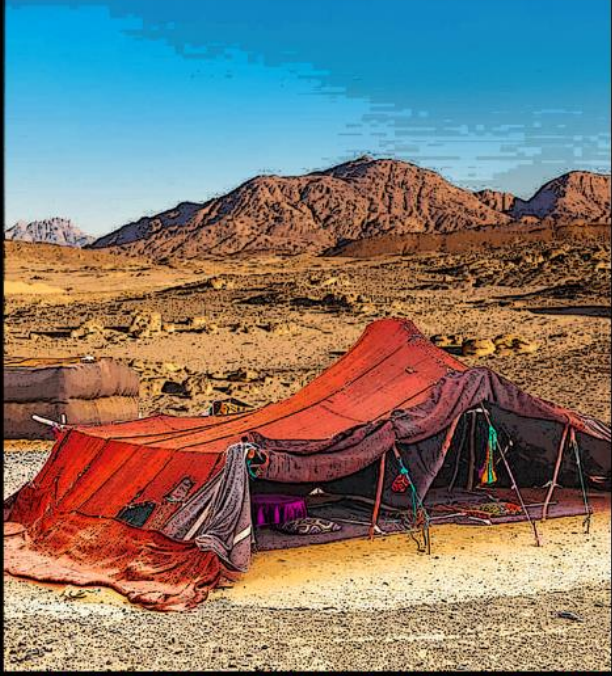
**July 20, 1969:** Buzz Aldrin, a Presbyterian elder, takes communion on the moon during the Apollo 11 landing.

**July 21, 1900:** Albert Schweitzer, who will become a famed theologian and missionary, is licensed in theology.

**WE'RE THIRSTY**

**WE'RE HUNGRY**

**HOW DO WE LIVE**



**WANDERING IN THE WILDERNESS**  
*Is God still with us?*

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
*July 16-18, 6-8 p.m.*

**LIMESTONE**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PC(USA) • GAFFNEY, SOUTH CAROLINA

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

### Sunday, July 16

9:45 AM Sunday School – Parlor  
 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School  
 10:15 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
 11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live  
 4:00 PM Yoga – FLC  
 6:00 PM VBS

### Monday, July 17

1:00 PM Picturing God – FLC  
 6:00 PM VBS

### Tuesday, July 18

6:00 PM VBS

### Wednesday, July 19

1:00 PM – Ready! Set! Go! – decorate t-shirts & bake & take

### Sunday, July 23

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

### Upcoming

July 19 – Ready! Set! Go!  
 July 24-28 – Create in Me: A New Spirit  
 Aug 2 – Ready! Set! Go! – Pool Party

## NEXT STEPS

- Pick up a hard copy of the LimeLight
- Pick up a hard copy of the Summer Calendar
- Pick up a VBS registration form on bulletin board across from the chapel



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

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



Vincent van Gogh. **The Manse at Nuenen.** September-October 1885. Oil on canvas.  
Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam.

### MEMBERS OF THE SESSION

| Class of 2023         | Class of 2024 | Class of 2025 |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Larry Sossamon        | Teresa Spires | Nancy McElroy |
| Bill Wheeler          | Dean Wyatt    | Mimi McCully  |
| Renee Wiseman (clerk) | Buck Jolley   |               |

### STAFF

Tonya Benton, Administrative Assistant, limepresbyterian@bellsouth.net  
 Rita Harmon, Organist, mteach1@aol.com  
 Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller, Pastor, limestone.presby.pastor@gmail.com  
 Vicki Miller, Nursery Attendant, vsrmiller@yahoo.com  
 Sharon Thompson, Music Director, Mozart1121@aol.com  
 Carrie Wyatt, Director Children & Youth Ministries, carewyatt@gmail.com

QR code for electronic contributions:



CONNECT WITH US: [limestone-presbyterian.com/](https://www.limestone-presbyterian.com/) 864-489-6079  
 /limestonepresbyterian @limestone\_pres\_gaffney  
 109 SOUTH LIMESTONE STREET • GAFFNEY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Do we have here one story with two possible interpretations? Perhaps, but that is not the best way of describing it. What we have here, and there are other examples in Genesis, is a story we understand one way the first time we hear it, and a different way once we have discovered and reflected on all that happened later. It is only after we have read about the fate of Jacob in Laban's house, the tension between Leah and Rachel, and the animosity between Joseph and his brothers that we can go back and read [Genesis 27](#), the chapter of the blessing, in a new light and with greater depth. -- Jonathan Sacks