

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP  
6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

July 9, 2023

11:00 AM

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

GATHERING

Prelude

“Peace I Give” (Webb)

David Thompson

Call to Worship

Larry Sossamon

God can still the noise around us and in us.

**God can still the urgency and anxiety.**

God can still the destruction and falsehood.

**As God stills the storm around us, may we listen.**

God breaks through with a still, small voice.

**God breaks through with calm and clarity.**

God breaks through with leading and light.

**Lord, may we listen and act.**

Let us not be conformed to the pattern of this world,

**But let us be transformed by the renewing of our minds.**

Then we will be able to discern God’s will.

**Then we will discern God’s good, pleasing, and perfect will.**

\*Hymn of Praise #10

“Sing Glory to the Name of God”

\*Call to Confession

Larry Sossamon

\*Prayer of Confession

Holy God, hear our prayer:

For the mending of hearts, our own and others’,

torn apart by our unkindness;

For the healing of souls, our own and others’,

drained of life by the despair around us;

For the forgiveness we seek

as we remember the sin we have allowed to persist;

For the reconciliation of the world,

whose division condemns us;

We pray for the courage to admit our fault,

the strength to amend our actions,

and the hope that your grace awaits us.

Through Christ we pray. Amen.

\*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

“Praise the Lord” (Sleeth)

Chancel Choir

Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet, Praise the Lord with the harp and lute,

Praise the Lord with the gentle sounding flute.

Praise the Lord in the field and forest, Praise the Lord in the city square,

Praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.

Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine, Praise the Lord in the dark of night,

Praise the Lord in the rain or snow, or in the morning light.

Praise the Lord in the deepest valley, Praise the Lord on the highest hill,

Praise the Lord, never let your voice be still.

Praise the Lord with the crashing cymbal, Praise the Lord with the pipe and string,

Praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.

Praise the Lord on a weekday morning, Praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,

Praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.

Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow, Praise the Lord in the time of joy,

Praise the Lord ev’ry moment, nothing let your praise destroy.

Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet, Praise the Lord in your work or play.

Praise the Lord ev’ry where in ev’ry way! Praise the Lord ev’ry where in ev’ry way.

First Reading

Genesis 24:1-67 (Pew Bible OT p.19)

Second Reading

Romans 6:16-18 (Pew Bible NT p.156)

The Word of God, for us, the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon from the Pulpit

“The Rom-Com Sermon”

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*Affirmation of Faith

(A Declaration of Faith, 2.4)

**God created human beings with a need for community  
and with freedom to enter into it**

**by responding to their Maker with grateful obedience  
and to one another with love and helpfulness.**

**We believe that we have been created  
to relate to God and each other  
in freedom and responsibility.**

**We may misuse our freedom and deny our responsibility  
by trying to live without God and other people  
or against God and other people.**

**Yet we are still bound to them for our life and well-being,  
and intended for free and responsible fellowship with them.**

**Since every human being is made  
for communion with God and others,  
we must treat no one with contempt.**

**We are to respect and love all other people  
and ourselves as well.**

\*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

“Rock of Ages” (arr. Seidel)

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 #93

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

\*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

\*Postlude

“Cathedral Fanfare” (Young)

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.

Please remember in prayer:

Sara Setzer; John Paul Hyche; Margaret Moeller; Hugh Fincher; Fran Ross; Peggy Wyatt; Buck Jolley; Emma June; DeAnna Tock, Justina Eddy; the family of Sandra Woodlief; Alex Copeland.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next week’s lectionary readings are:

Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.

Ready! Set! Go!

On Wednesday, July 12 we will be playing Bingo @ the Palmetto Patriot’s Home. Meet at the church @ 1:30pm.

T-Shirts

**Today is the last day** to order LPC t-shirts. Order forms are available wherever you find bulletins (narthex, hallway) and in the FLC. The order form includes a mock-up of the shirt. You may turn in your order form with payment to the church office or Becky Wheeler. You may also put it in the offering plate.

A Note about the bulletin cover photo

The Rebecca jug is an enduringly popular form of North Carolina art pottery. The "Rebecca" got its name from illustrations of the Biblical story of Rebecca at the Well (Genesis 24). The classic shape of the Rebecca is that of an ewer (a vase-shaped water jug) with an elongated, over-arched handle. While single-handled pieces are the norm, there are also large two-handled ewers known as "Double Rebeccas." Although not unique to North Carolina art pottery, the Rebecca jug developed a strong association with the Tar Heel State during the 1930s, when many tens of thousands were made for customers, the tourist trade, and resorts.

**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.

Wednesday Night Supper

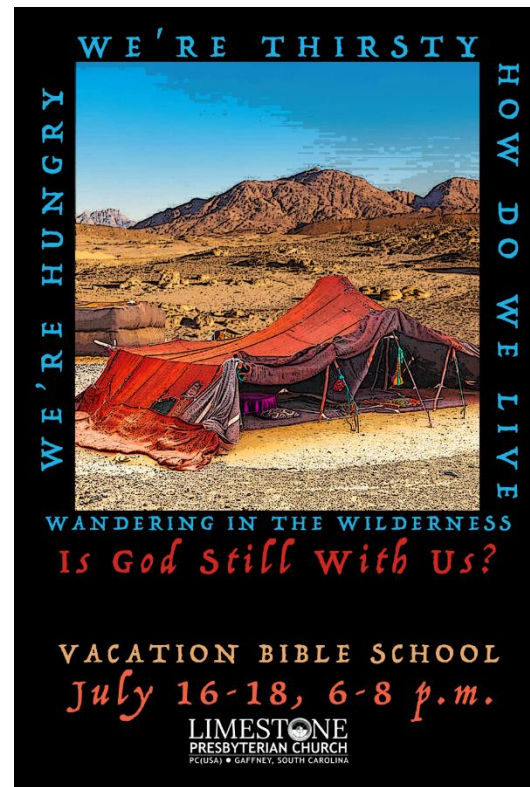
The congregation is invited to a potluck dinner at the home of Michelle and Hank Jolly, 312 Silver Circle, on Wednesday, July 12, at 6 p.m. Please bring a dish to share.

## THIS WEEK IN CHURCH HISTORY

**July 10, 1863:** Death of Clement C. Moore. In 1819 he had established the General Theological Seminary, where he taught Greek and Hebrew Literature for twenty-eight years. He has also authored "A Visit from St. Nicholas," better known as "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

**July 11, 1924:** Eric Liddell wins the Olympic 400 meter race in Paris after he had rejected an opportunity to run in the 100 meter race because its heats were on a Sunday: he believes it is a violation of God's Sabbath command to run on Sunday. His story is dramatized in the movie "Chariots of Fire" (1981).

**July 13, 1960:** Death in Oxford, England, of Joy Davidman Lewis, wife of C.S. Lewis. The story of Joy and C.S. Lewis is dramatized in the movie "Shadowlands" (1993).



## STAFF

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 Carrie Wyatt, Director Children & Youth Ministries, carewyatt@gmail.com

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

### Sunday, July 9

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  
 12:30 PM Session Meeting – Conference Room

### Wednesday, July 12

1:30 PM – Ready! Set! Go! – Palmetto Patriots Home

### 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

### Upcoming

July 16 – Yoga  
 July 17 – Picturing God  
 July 19 – Ready! Set! Go! – T-shirt decorating & Bake & Take  
 Save the Date: Vacation Bible School, July 16-20  
 Save the Date: Create in Me: A New Spirit, July 24-28

## 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
- Sign up to be a VBS volunteer on the bulletin board across from the chapel

## 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   |               |

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



Rebecca jug by Wayman Cole. 1940s. J.B. Cole Pottery, Seagrove, NC.

The history of sitcoms parallels the history of the two Bibles. Sitcoms started with families, the Goldbergs, Burns and Allen, Life with Riley. The first season of the Bible, the Hebrew one, is all about families, patriarchs with whom God makes covenants. Except not all the TV fathers are quite as dysfunctional or comic as the biblical ones. ... Ozzie and Harriet parallel Isaac and Rebecca, except the Nelsons don't have to worry about sibling rivalry as much as musical opportunities for their boys. ... An old rabbi friend of mine once told me that the problem that Christians had in reading their Scriptures is that they read it with solemn tones. Try a Yiddish or Brooklyn accent instead of a stentorian television evangelist's voice. Suddenly you will hear the comedy of God's word. -Terry Lindvall, "The Bible as Sitcom: the Sitcom as Bible," [theopolis.com/conversations](https://theopolis.com/conversations).