

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

October 29, 2023

10:30 AM

Pre Service

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” (Bradbury)

Handbell Ensemble

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

GATHERING

Prelude

“Immortal, Invisible” (Welsh Tune)

Handbell Ensemble

Call to Worship

(Psalm 90)

Nancy McElroy

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth,

or ever you had formed the earth and the world,

from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past,

or like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away; they are like a dream,

like grass that is renewed in the morning;

in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;

in the evening it fades and withers.

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,

so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Let your work be manifest to your servants,

and your glorious power to their children.

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,

and prosper for us the work of our hands –

O prosper the work of our hands!

*Hymn of Praise #275

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

*Call to Confession

Nancy McElroy

*Prayer of Confession

God of past, present, and future,

As we celebrate the Reformation,

we give you thanks for the church in every age

that has taught the faith,

shared the sacraments,

and fed the poor.

But we ask forgiveness

for the times when the church

has let the human urge for power and self-preservation

prevail over the will of God.

We confess there are times

when we forget that our unity

comes from Jesus Christ rather than from us.

Forgive us, we pray.

Change us, O God.

Make us a church worthy and willing

to work at healing divisions

throughout your Church and your world.

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

“This Little Light of Mine” (Spiritual)

Handbell Ensemble

First Reading

Matthew 24:34-46 (Pew Bible NT p.27)

Second Reading

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 (Pew Bible OT p.191)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon from the Pulpit

"The Finish Line"

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church,

the holy catholic Church;

the communion of saints.

This Kirk is catholic, that is, universal,

because it contains the chosen of all ages,

of all realms, nations, and tongues,

be they of the Jews or be they of the Gentiles,

who have communion and society with God the Father,

and with the Son, Christ Jesus,

through the sanctification of the Holy Spirit

The church's commission,

upon which its freedom is founded,

consists in delivering the message

of the free grace of God

to all people in Christ's stead,

and therefore in the ministry

of his own Word and work

through sermon and Sacrament.

With believers in every time and place

we rejoice that nothing in life or in death

can separate us from the love of God

in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Nicene Creed

Apostles' Creed

Scots Confession

Brief Statement of Faith

*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

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” (Berry)

David Thompson

*Please put your Estimate of Giving cards in the offering plate

as well as your weekly offering.

*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 #451

“Open My Eyes That I May See”

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

*Postlude

“Postlude on Holy, Holy, Holy” (arr. Hebble)

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 in honor

of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lynn Miller's ordination by her family.

Please remember in prayer:

Family & friends of Nancy Blanton; Alice Setzer; Cece Manning; Patsy Spires;

Kathy Miller Evans; Trish Tong; Sara Setzer; Hugh Fincher; Fran Ross; Buck

Jolley; Justina Eddy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next week's lectionary readings are:

Joshua 3:7-17; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12.

The Fall Bible Study

We know that Paul visited the churches in Galatia several times. This Monday

we will look at what Paul wrote to them. We'll consider what made Galatia

different from its geographical neighbors and see how Paul (who claimed to be

"all things to all people") wrote to them specifically. Join us for this one-off

study even if you haven't attended previous weeks. 6:30 in the Family Life

Center.

CE on Wednesdays!

Between now and the end of the year we will be experimenting with offering

Christian Education opportunities on Wednesday nights. Sometimes we will all

be together, at other times the children will have their program and adults will

have theirs. Beginning on November 1, we will start a three-week unit that

centers on Israel. This week we will all stay together for Hazel Hubbard's

presentation on her trip to Israel last year. On November 8 and 15 the children

will have their own program on Jewish food and feasts. Youth and adults will

choose between two options. 1) A discussion of *The Bronze Bow*, a young adult

novel by Elizabeth George Speare. You will need to order and read the book

before the discussion. OR 2) A viewing/discussion of *Walking the Bible*, a video

series by Bruce Feiler. You will participate in either the book discussion or the

video/discussion for both weeks. Last week's Limelight had additional

information on ordering the book or participating in the discussion.

Grace Circle

The Grace Circle will meet this Thursday, Nov. 2 @ 7:00pm in the home of

Nancy McElroy.

Congregational Meeting

A Congregational Meeting is called for Sunday, November 5, following worship,

to hear a motion from the Congregational Nominating Committee.

Monthly Giving Opportunity

This month the offering will go to Christmas is For Kids through The Gaffney

Ledger. You can place your donation in the offering plate or the giving box.

THIS WEEK IN CHURCH HISTORY

**October 31, 1517:** Martin Luther nails a challenge to a debate on the Wittenberg church door. It consists of ninety-five statements, or theses, against the practice of indulgences—theses which he is willing to defend. The theses will be widely distributed and precipitate the Reformation.

**November 1, 1512:** After four years of work, Michelangelo opens the Sistine Chapel ceiling to public view on All Saints Day. His work covers a 5,800-square-foot surface.

**November 3, 1805:** A painter defaces the statue of King William III in Dublin. The statue is hated by Roman Catholics because William had secured Ireland for Protestantism, and hated by Protestant students because the rump of its horse faces their university. The culprit will never be apprehended. In 1928 the statue will be blown up.

Praying for Our Congregation

We are praying for every member of our church family.  
Each week we invite you to pray for particular members.  
This week we are praying for:

Tony Sossamon, Jr.  
Marcia Simmons  
Anna Benson  
Jim Thompson

CALENDAR of EVENTS

- Sunday, October 28**  
9:45 AM Lectionary Bites – Parlor  
10:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live  
11:45 AM Sunday School – Parlor  
11:45 AM Children’s Sunday School  
4:00 PM Yoga – FLC
- Monday, October 30**  
5:45 PM Handbell Rehearsal – Handbell Room  
6:30 PM Bible Study – FLC
- Wednesday, November 1**  
6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper – FLC
- Thursday, November 2**  
7:00 PM Grace Circle – Nancy McElroy's home
- Sunday, November 5**  
9:45 AM Lectionary Bites – Parlor  
9:45 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
10:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live  
11:45 AM Sunday School – Parlor  
11:45 AM Children’s Sunday School

- Upcoming**  
Nov. 7 – Election Day  
Nov 10-12 – Foothills Presbytery Middle School Youth Retreat  
Nov 12 – Yoga  
Nov 14 – Joy Circle  
Nov 14 – Meeting of Foothills Presbytery, First Presbyterian, Anderson  
Nov 18 – Elder Training sponsored by Foothills Presbytery

NEXT STEPS

- ☐ Pick up a hard copy of the LimeLight
- ☐ Make a reservation for Wednesday Night Supper
- ☐ Mark May 18, 2024 on your calendar. We will host Foothills Presbytery that day!

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   |               |

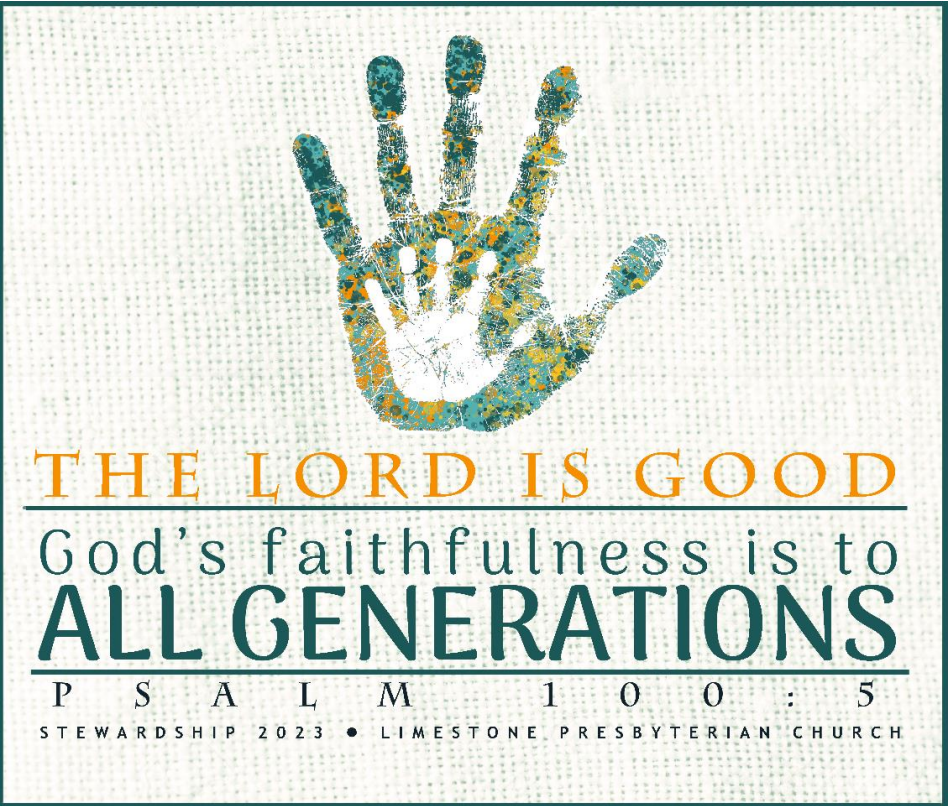
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Carrie Wyatt, Director Children & Youth Ministries, carewyatt@gmail.com



LIMESTONE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PC(USA)

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



When we are trapped in seeking, nothing is enough.  
Everything we have mocks us; we see only what is missing,  
and all that is already here seems pale and unsatisfying. . . .  
The time for seeking is over; the time for finding has begun.  
—Wayne Muller, *Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal, and Delight  
in Our Busy Lives*

QR code for electronic contributions:



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