

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

24th Sunday after Pentecost

November 12, 2023

10:30 AM

Welcome and AnnouncementsTeresa Spires

GATHERING

Prelude“Eternal Father, Strong to Save” (Larson)David Thompson

Call to WorshipTeresa Spires

Come and worship, all you who love and serve our God –
Come and behold the works of our God.
It is God who surrounds us with unfailing love,
and answers us when we call;
who cares for the humble and lowly,
and never abandons those in need.
This is our God,
worthy of our praise!
This is our God,
worthy of our worship!

*Hymn of Praise #561“My Country, 'Tis of Thee”

*Call to ConfessionTeresa Spires

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
with our whole heart and soul
and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy,
forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
And forgive, we pray,
the sins we now name silently...

*Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news!
Christ died for us,
Christ rose for us,
Christ reigns in power for us,
Christ prays for us.
Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
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 StepsCarrie Wyatt

AnthemChancel Choir

It's a gift to be simple, it's a gift to be kind, it's a gift to smile and to share a happy mind.
It's a gift from the Father when we go on our way
with a joyful song at the start of the day.
But the gift to be simple and the gift to be kind
are the gifts which only a very few will find.
Yet these gifts from the Father can be found ev'ry day
if we look to Him and His will we obey. Love, love! It's a gift to be kind.
It's a gift when we smile, when we share a happy mind.
Love, love! We go on our way with a joyful song at the start of the day.
It's a gift to be simple, it's a gift to be kind, it's a gift to smile and to share a happy mind.
It's a gift from the Father when we go on our way
with a joyful song at the start of the day.
Love, love, love! It's a gift to be kind. It's a gift when we smile,
when we share a happy mind.
Love, love, love, love! We go on our way with a joyful heart at the start of the day.

First ReadingPsalm 23 (Pew Bible OT p.501)

Second ReadingJohn 16:12-15 & 33 (Pew Bible NT p.110)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon from the PulpitRev. Steven Rhodes

“What Do I Really Expect From God?”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith(Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*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 Peopleconcluding with the Lord’s Prayer (page 35 in hymnal)

Service of Giving

Offertory“Hymn For Veterans Day” (arr. Ruello)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 #559"We Gather Together"

*Charge and BenedictionRev. Dr. Lynn Miller

*Postlude“Recessional on Lobe den Herren” (Edwards)Rita Harmon

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\*Please stand, in body or in spirit.

The flowers in worship today are given for the glory of God  
and in honor of Jim and Louise Watts' anniversary.

Please remember in prayer:

Harper Blanton, Annie White, and Lynn Miller -- the LPC contingent at the  
Foothills Presbytery Middle School Youth Retreat; the Presbytery Youth  
Council and advisors as they bring their retreat planning to fruition at Asbury  
Hills Camp and Retreat Center; Cece Manning; Patsy Spires; Kathy Miller  
Evans; Trish Tong; Hugh Fincher; Fran Ross; Buck Jolley; Justina Eddy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next week's lectionary readings are:

Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30.

The Fall Bible Study

Paul has played the "Rome card" before, but now he's on his way. Who writes  
about Paul's time in Rome? Does he? Does Luke? After all Paul has done, seen,  
experienced, and written, how does the end of his ministry look? Does he get  
to Spain? Join us Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the FLC.

CE on Wednesdays!

This week we conclude our three-week closer look at Israel. The children will  
continue their exploration of Jewish foods and feasts. *The Bronze Bow*  
discussion and Walking the Bible will continue.

Joy Circle

The Joy Circle will meet Tuesday, November 14th, at 10:30 AM in either the  
church parlor or the Family Life Center. Mimi McCully will lead the Bible  
study, Lesson 3 in *Sacred Encounters: the Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in  
Luke-Acts*. All are invited to come for Bible study and fellowship.

Monthly Giving Opportunity

The November giving opportunity is the Salvation Army/Angel Tree. Please  
choose an angel (or two) from the tree, purchase gifts for that child, and return  
them to the FLC by Dec. 8 with the tag attached. (Do not wrap your gifts, but  
including giftwrap can be very helpful.)

Children’s Library

You still have the opportunity to help expand our children's library. Bookmarks  
are available in the FLC or you can write a check to the church with the  
notation "Children's Books" and put it in the offering plate.

Today we welcome Rev. Steven Rhodes

Rev. Steven H. Rhodes, BSW, MSW, MDiv, Honorable Retired. Graduate of  
Florida State University and Columbia Theological Seminary. My wife, Judy, and  
I recently moved back to Spartanburg. We have 4 children, 8 grandchildren. I  
have been ordained since 1982 and served in four states. I have previously  
served Foothills Presbytery from 2000 to 2017.

THIS WEEK IN CHURCH HISTORY

**November 13, 1618:** Calvinists in the Netherlands convene the Synod of Dort in order to deal with theological issues facing the church, including the doctrines of God's sovereignty and human free will, election, and human choice.

**November 14, 565:** Death of eighty-two-year-old Roman Emperor Justinian. He had reunited the Eastern and Western empires politically and religiously, erected several basilicas and created the Justinian Code. This code of law will influence the development of canon law in the Middle Ages and secular law codes into modern times.

**November 15, 1630:** Death of Johann Kepler, the Lutheran astronomer who had discovered the laws of planetary motion. His arguments for the unity of religion and science were often printed as if by Galileo.

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:

Hazel Sefah Anokye  
Dean Wiseman  
Sherry Sossamon  
Rita Harmon

CALENDAR of EVENTS

**Sunday, November 12**  
9:45 AM Lectionary Bites – Parlor  
9:45 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
10:30 AM Worship – Chapel & via Facebook Live  
4:00 PM Yoga – FLC

**Monday, November 13**  
5:45 PM Handbell Rehearsal – Handbell Room  
6:30 PM Bible Study – FLC

**Tuesday, November 14**  
10:30 AM Joy Circle – Parlor

**Wednesday, November 15**  
6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper – FLC

**Sunday, November 19**  
9:45 AM Lectionary Bites – Parlor  
9:45 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
10:30 AM Worship – Chapel & via Facebook Live  
12:00 PM Session Meeting – Conference Room

**Upcoming**  
Nov 21 - Thanksgiving Service  
Nov 26 - Put up Chrismon Tree  
Nov 29 - Hanging of the Greens / Advent Wreath Making

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!
- ☐ Sign up for the Chrismon party
- ☐ Sign up for Advent Wreath Making
- ☐ Pick up an angel from the Angel Tree
- ☐ Buy a bookmark / donate for Children's Library
- ☐ Check the LimeLight to see the books purchased with your donations

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

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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



QR code for electronic contributions:



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