

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

January 14, 2024

10:30 AM

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

Minute for Mission

Mimi McCully

GATHERING

Prelude

"He Leadeth Me" (Larson)

David Thompson

Call to Worship

Bob McCully

God has searched us and knows us.

God knows when we sit down and stand up. God knows our thoughts.

God is acquainted with all our ways.

Even before we say a word, God knows what we will say.

God is before us, behind us, above us, below us, all around us.

God is the one who called us into being, even before we were born.

We are fearfully and wonderfully made.

We are made by a God who knows all the days of our lives.

If we tried to count all the things God has done for us, it would be more than the number of grains of sand on a beach.

And when we came to the end of that impossible counting, we would still be with God.

Let us worship God!

*Hymn of Praise #485

"To God Be The Glory"

*Call to Confession

Bob McCully

*Prayer of Confession

God of light and darkness,

we have seen the glimmer of your star-light beckoning to us, but we have turned away and followed other paths.

We confess that we have not loved you with all our heart,

with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Forgive us, Holy One.

Strengthen our faltering steps,

guiding us in your holy way of peace.

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

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

You are the Christ, giver of mercy!

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon on the Steps

Carrie Wyatt

Anthem

"Be Thou My Vision" (Young)

Chancel Choir

Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart

Naught be all else to me save that thou art

Thou my best thought by day or by night

Waking or sleeping thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom and Thou my True word

I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord

Thou my Great Father and I Thy true son

O Thou in my dwelling And I with Thee one.

High King of Heaven my victory won

May I reach heaven's joys O bright heav'n's sun!

Heart of my own heart what ever befall

O still be my vision Thou ruler of all.

First Reading

1 Samuel 3:1-20 (Pew Bible OT p.247)

Second Reading

John 1:43-51 (Pew Bible NT p.92)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon from the Pulpit

"Under a Fig Tree"

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Affirmation of Faith

(A Declaration of Faith, 9.1)

In forming his people and sending them into the world

Jesus called individuals to be disciples.

They were to share the joy of his companionship,

to understand and obey his teachings,

and to follow him in life and death.

We confess that Christians today are called to discipleship.

Life shared with Christ and shaped by Christ

is God's undeserved gift to each of us.

It is also God's demand upon every one of us,

never perfectly fulfilled by any of us.

Forgiven by God and supported by brothers and sisters,

we strive to become more faithful and effective

in our daily practice of the Christian life.

*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 16 in hymnal)

Service of Giving

Offertory

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" (arr. Huisman)

Jim Simmons

*Doxology #592

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 #356

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

*Postlude

"Trumpet Tune" (Lau)

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.

Please remember in prayer:

Rex Allison; Barbara Grinter; Family of Bryson Burgess; Helen Lowrey;

Christopher Scott Henry; Patsy Spires; Kathy Miller Evans; Trish Tong; Hugh

Fincher; Fran Ross; Buck Jolley; Justina Eddy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next week's lectionary readings are:

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20.

Monthly Giving Opportunity

The January giving opportunity is Smile Train. You may mark your check "Smile Train" or put it in the MGO box in the worship space.

Game Night

TONIGHT we will have a pizza and game night in the FLC. The church will supply dinner (salad, pizza, drinks, dessert), and everyone is invited to bring a game -- dominoes, spades, Monopoly, Clue, Battleship? What's your game? Come and play!

Congregational Meeting

We will have a Congregational Meeting immediately after the worship service next week, 1/21, for Lynn's Terms of Call.

CE on Wednesdays

Please join us Wednesday, January 17, as we continue our journey through the intergenerational Wednesday night suppers. The topic of different types of grief and mental health will be highlighted with guest counselors, Edie Riddlespurger and Toni Sanders, to help guide us through some of the toughest parts of life. No generation will want to miss this!

Contribution envelopes

Contribution envelopes for 2024 are in the front of the chapel near the piano. If you didn't receive a set, but would like some, please contact Jim Watts or the church office."

Baby Shower

Circles will host a baby shower honoring Rileigh Miller Sunday, January 21 at 2:00 PM in the church Parlor. Rileigh is having a boy, and she is registered on Amazon.

Congregational Retreat

Reservation forms for the 2024 LPC Congregational Retreat are available wherever you pick up a bulletin. Join us in wonderful Montreat, NC, at the William Black Lodge May 3-5. We'll spend the weekend together around the theme "Ever-Laughing Life: Joy in the Morning, Noon, and Night." Reservation forms with the initial deposit are due to the church office by February 1.

# CALENDAR of EVENTS

## THIS WEEK IN CHURCH HISTORY

**January 15, 1697:** Massachusetts citizens observe a day of fasting and repentance for the Salem witch trials of 1692, in which 19 suspected witches were hanged and more than 150 imprisoned. The day was declared "That so all of God's people may offer up fervent supplications unto him, that all iniquity may be put away, which hath stirred God's holy jealousy against this land; that he would show us what we know not, and help us, wherein we have done amiss, to do so no more."

**January 17, 1525:** The Zurich City Council arranges a public debate on the subject of infant baptism, which Ulrich Zwingli mandated but Conrad Grebel and Felix Manz (among others) opposed on the grounds that baptism symbolizes a believer's commitment to Christ. Grebel and Manz were defeated and eventually killed for their views.

## 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:

Tom Thomson  
Sara Berry

### Sunday, January 14

9:45 AM Lectionary Bites – Parlor  
9:45 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
10:30 AM Worship – Chapel & via Facebook Live  
11:45 AM Session Meeting – Conference Room  
5:00 PM Game Night – FLC

### Wednesday, January 17

6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper – FLC

### Sunday, January 21

9:45 AM Lectionary Bites – Parlor  
9:45 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
10:30 AM Worship – Chapel & via Facebook Live  
11:30 AM Congregational Meeting – Chapel  
2:00 PM Baby Shower for Rileigh Miller – Parlor  
4:00 PM Yoga – FLC

### Upcoming

January 30 Bible Study begins  
February 4 Yoga  
February 24 Soup Kitchen

## NEXT STEPS

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



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

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



Nathanel Under the Fig Tree. Unknown artist.

## MEMBERS OF THE SESSION

| Class of 2024 | Class of 2025 | Class of 2026 |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Teresa Spires | Nancy McElroy | Robin Morris  |
| Dean Wyatt    | Mimi McCully  | Barbara Cope  |

## STAFF

Tonya Benton, Administrative Assistant, limepresbyterian@bellsouth.net  
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QR code for electronic contributions:



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May the children of the stock of Abraham who dwell in this land continue to merit and enjoy the good will of the other inhabitants - while every one shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree and there shall be none to make him afraid.

---George Washington,  
letter to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, RI,  
18 August 1790; quoting Micah 4:4.