

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

February 4, 2024

10:30 AM

Welcome and AnnouncementsRev. Dr. Lynn Miller

GATHERING

Prelude“Prelude and Fugato on Crusader’s Hymn” (Young)Rita Harmon

Call to Worship(Based on Psalm 147)Dean Wyatt

How good it is to sing praises to our God!

God builds up Jerusalem and gathers the outcasts of Israel.

God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

God determines the number of the stars and gives them their names.

Great is our God; abundant in power. God’s understanding is beyond measure.

God covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain for the earth, and makes grass grow.

God’s delight isn’t in the strength of the horse or the speed of a runner.

Rather, God delights in those who hope and trust in God’s steadfast love.

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!

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

\*Call to ConfessionDean Wyatt

\*Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer,

We confess that we have tried to hide from you,

Because we have done wrong.

For living for ourselves rather than living for you,

God of grace, forgive us, we pray.

For wasting your gifts and hoarding our possessions,

God of grace, forgive us, we pray.

For growing weary as we run the race before us,

God of grace, forgive us, we pray.

For being reluctant to share the gospel of Jesus Christ,

God of grace, forgive us, we pray.

For ignoring the cries of people in need,

God of grace, forgive us, we pray.

And forgive, we pray, the sins we now name silently...

\*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

\*Assurance of Pardon Response #437

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 StepsCarrie Wyatt

Anthem“I Will Joyfully Sing” (McDonald)Chancel Choir

I will joyfully sing in the morning. I will joyfully sing all the day.

I'll sing praises to Thee in the morning, For the Lord is the strength of my day.

I will lift up my eyes in the morning, for the Lord will not turn me away.

I'll sing praises to Thee in the morning, For the Lord is the strength of my day.

I will sing! I will sing! I will sing of praises His goodness to me, I will sing!

I will sing! I will sing! I will sing of praises His goodness to me. I will sing!

I will joyfully sing in the morning. I will joyfully sing all the day.

I'll sing praises to Thee in the morning, For the Lord is the strength of my day.

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I'll sing praises to Thee in the morning, For the Lord is the strength of my day.

First ReadingIsaiah 40:21-31 (Pew Bible OT p.668)

Second ReadingMark 1:29-39 (Pew Bible NT p.35)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon from the Pulpit“A Day in the Life”Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Affirmation of Faith(Theological Declaration of Barmen, 8.14-15)

As Jesus Christ is God's assurance

of the forgiveness of all our sins,

so in the same way and with the same seriousness

he is also God's mighty claim upon our whole life.

Through him we are joyfully delivered

from the godless fetters of this world

for a free, grateful service to God’s creatures.

We reject the false doctrine,

as though there were areas of our life

in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ,

but to other lords–

areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification

through him.

\*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"Higher Ground” (Berry)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 #610“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

\*Charge and BenedictionRev. Dr. Lynn Miller

\*Postlude“Praise Him! Praise Him!” (Mary McDonald)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:

Bill Wheeler & the mission team from FPC Spartanburg working in Dominican Republic this week; Jill Thomson; 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:

2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9.

Monthly Giving Opportunity

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

Circles

The Joy Circle will meet on Tuesday, February 13 at 10:30am in the church parlor. Deborah Smith will lead the study: Lesson 5: “A Person with Leprosy Encounters Jesus.” All are invited to join the Bible Study and fellowship.

2023 Giving Statements

Giving statements for 2023 were either sent by email or are in the narthex. If there is any question about yours, please contact Jim Watts.

A Note on the Theological Declaration of Barmen

The Theological Declaration of Barmen was written by a group of church leaders in Germany in 1934 to help Christians withstand the challenges of the Nazi party and of the so-called “German Christians,” a popular movement that saw no conflict between Christianity and the ideals of Hitler’s National Socialism. Theologian Karl Barth was the guiding scholar for the Declaration. The Declaration of Barmen raised its voice against Hitler’s Germany. It reaffirms the church’s profession of the sovereignty of God, the authority of Scripture, and the salvation of Jesus Christ. In those affirmations we hear a resounding denial of Hitler’s hostile, Nazi claims of sovereignty, authority and salvation.

Spring Bible Study

This week our study of the book of Daniel will focus on the second chapter. If you haven't read Daniel 1, start there and then move on to chapter 2. We'll see how God is working in Daniel's life to educate Nebuchadnezzar. Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the FLC.

Birthday

The LPC congregation has been invited to join in the celebration of the first birthday of Evaleigh Lail. The party will be held in the FLC on Saturday, Feb. 17 at 2:00pm. Please let Jenni know if you will be able to attend.

Office News

There is a new Calendar & Communication center in the office. Please use the resources found there to request use of the building for events, schedule flowers for the Sanctuary, request reimbursement for expenses, etc. Please **DO NOT** add to or remove anything from the calendar. Fill out & turn in the appropriate forms in the Communication center, then the item will be added to the calendar for you when approved (if applicable). We will continue to accept emailed requests, provided the correct forms are used and emailed as attachments. Beginning in February, requests not using the appropriate forms will have a delay in processing as they will need to be returned for correction. Thank you for your understanding as we try to streamline these processes.

THIS WEEK IN CHURCH HISTORY

**February 4, 1874:** Frances Ridley Havergal writes the text of the hymn "Take My Life and Let It Be." Frances began reading and memorizing the Bible at the age of 4, eventually memorizing the Psalms, Isaiah, and most of the New Testament. She was in demand as a vocal soloist and was a brilliant pianist. Additionally, she learned several modern languages as well as Greek and Hebrew.

**February 6, 1564:** John Calvin preached his last sermon. He was carried to the church in a chair and forced to leave when a violent coughing fit ruptured a blood vessel in his lungs. Calvin died on May 27, 1564. For 23 years he had led Geneva, planting the seeds of modern democracy and constructing a logical framework on which to interpret Reformation doctrine. Calvin's ideas for church government found wider expression in Scotland and then in the United States when Calvinists migrated to America. Calvin's model of church government became the model for national governments.

**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:

John Gray  
Carrie Wyatt  
Barbara Jarman

CALENDAR of EVENTS

**Sunday, February 4**  
9:45 AM Lectionary Bites – Parlor  
9:45 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
10:30 AM Worship – Chapel  
4:00 PM Yoga – FLC

**Monday, February 5**  
5:45 PM Handbell Rehearsal – Handbell Room

**Tuesday, February 6**  
6:00 PM Bible Study – FLC

**Wednesday, February 7**  
6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper – FLC

**Sunday, February 11 – Souper Bowl of Caring**  
9:45 AM Lectionary Bites – Parlor  
9:45 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
10:30 AM Worship – Chapel & via Facebook Live

**Upcoming**  
February 13 Pancake Supper  
February 14 Ash Wednesday  
February 17 Birthday Party for Evaleigh Lail  
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
- ☐ Make your reservations for the LPC Congregational Retreat, May 3-5, William Black Lodge, Montreat, NC



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

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



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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

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QR code for electronic contributions:



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O Lord, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have established;  
what are humans that you are mindful of them,  
mortals that you care for them?  
Psalm 8:1, 3-4