

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
26th Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2024

10:30 AM

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

GATHERING

Prelude "Hymns of Thanksgiving" (arr. Huisman) Jim Simmons

Call to Worship Renee Wiseman

Have you seen God's work in the world? Are you still waiting for a sign?

Sure or waiting, we worship God, who has promised us life.

Are you confident in what the future will bring? Or do you have more questions than answers?

Confident or questioning, we worship Jesus, in whom we have faith.

Is the law of God put in your hearts? Is the word of God written on your minds?

Fully mature or still growing, we worship the Spirit, who guides us daily.

***Hymn of Praise #367** "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

***Call to Confession** Renee Wiseman

***Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God,
sometimes we feel invincible,
and other times we realize how fragile we are as humans.
We are blown about by the latest crisis,
by bad news,
by our own short tempers and failings.
You call us to hold fast to what is good,
and render to no one evil for evil,
but often we falter
and are unable to find
the solid thing that will center us again.
Forgive us, we pray.
Help us to set aside our jealousies and prejudices,
our betrayals and lies,
and every other thing
that adds to the world's hurt.
Help us to see you as our center,
and to cling to the good you create in the world.
May we grow more into Christ's likeness,
And hear, we pray, the sins we now confess 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 Steps

Anthem

Chancel Choir

"Praise the Lord With Joyful Song" (Early American Tune)

Praise the Lord with joyful song; hail the Rock who saves us.

Offer God our grateful hearts, shout our loud thanksgiving.

Mighty is the Lord our God, King above all Gods;

bless the Lord with joyful song; hail the Rock who saves us.

God made all the earth and sky, all creation's splendor.

Valleys green speak forth their praise; hills reflect His goodness.

The oceans also tell of God; the dry land He created.

God made all the earth and sky, all creation's splendor.

Come and worship, kneel before the Lord; bless His name.

He is gracious, loving, kind and true. Bless His name. He is Lord of all.

We are His own flock. Come and worship, kneel before the Lord; bless His name.

Praise the Lord with joyful song; Hail the Rock who saves us.

Offer God our grateful hearts, our thanksgiving bring. For mighty is the Lord our God,
the King above all Gods. Sing out joy in praise to God. Hail the Rock who saves us.

First Reading Psalm 16 (Pew Bible OT p.495)

Second Reading Mark 13:1-8 (Pew Bible NT p.50)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon from the Pulpit "Before Mark " Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith** (Confession of 1967, 9.54-55)

**Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ,
such as a heavenly city, the household of God,
a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast,
and an unending day
culminate in the image of the kingdom.
The kingdom represents God's triumph
over all that resists the divine will
and disrupts God's creation.**

**Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world,
stirring hope in all people and preparing the world
to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption.**

**With an urgency born of this hope,
the church applies itself to present tasks
and strives for a better world.**

**It does not identify limited progress
with the kingdom of God on earth,
nor does it despair in the face
of disappointment and defeat.**

**In steadfast hope,
the church looks beyond all partial achievement
to the final triumph of God.**

***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 "Face to Face" (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 #36** "For the Fruit of All Creation"

***Charge and Benediction** Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

***Postlude** "Hymn To Joy" (Beethoven) Jim Simmons

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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:**

Hazel Hubbard; Maj. Lisa Davis; Friends & Family of Peggy Daniel; Brooke Presley; Wyatt & Mary Aiken; Fred Sprague; Lisa Cleveland; Dallas Scruggs & Family; Lib Allen; Barbara Grinter; Patsy Spires; Kathy Miller Evans; Trish Tong; Hugh Fincher; Fran Ross; Buck Jolley.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Next week's lectionary readings are:**

2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-12 (13-18); Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37.

**Monthly Giving Opportunity**

The November giving opportunity is The Salvation Army/Angel Tree. Please select an angel tag from the tree and let your purchases be guided by their wishes.

**Limestone University Choir Concert**

Please mark your calendar for the Limestone University and Community Choir Concert to be held Sunday, November 24 at 3pm in Fullerton Auditorium. Bob & Mimi McCully are singing with this group and Jim Simmons is accompanying the choir.

**Estimate of Giving Cards**

The Finance Committee thanks all of you who turned in estimate-of-giving cards last week. If you have not turned in a card yet, you can get them in the church office. We are starting to plan the 2025 budget, and your estimates give us a better sense of the resources we will have.

**Yoga**

YOGA today at 4pm in the FLC.

## THIS WEEK IN CHURCH HISTORY

**November 19, 1786:** Queen Charlotte of England, wishing to set up Sunday schools at Windsor, consults for two hours with Sarah Trimmer. Trimmer was active in the Sunday school movement, founding the first Sunday school for poor children in Old Brentford in 1786. She and two of the ministers in her parish, Charles Sturgess and Charles Coates, organized a fund drive and established several schools for the poor children of the neighborhood. Initially, five hundred boys and girls wanted to attend Trimmer's Sunday school. Unable to accommodate such numbers, she decided to exclude those under five years of age and restricted each family to one pupil. The parish set up three schools, each with about thirty students—one for older boys, one for younger boys and one for girls. While some other educational reformers of the period (including Mary Wollstonecraft) argued for co-educational instruction, Trimmer was opposed to such pedagogical changes. She believed in educating the sexes separately. The students were taught to read, with the aim of teaching them to read the Bible. The students were also encouraged to keep clean—"a present of a brush and comb was given to all who desired them".

### 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:

**Rita Harmon**  
**Peggy Wyatt**  
**Loretta Afia Owusu Anokye**  
**Sharon Thompson**

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

### Sunday, November 17

9:45 AM Lectionary Bites – Parlor  
9:45 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live  
11:45 AM Session Meeting – Conference Room  
4:00 PM Yoga – FLC

### Monday, November 18

5:45 PM Handbell Rehearsal – Handbell Room

### Wednesday, November 20

6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper – FLC

### Sunday, November 24

9:45 AM Lectionary Bites – Parlor  
9:45 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary & via Facebook Live  
2:00 PM Hanging of the Greens

### Upcoming

November 26 Bible Study @ the Retreat  
November 26 Thanksgiving Service  
November 27-28 Church Office Closed for Holiday  
December 1 CE Committee Meeting  
December 3 Outreach Committee Meeting  
December 5 Women's Christmas Dinner  
December 6 Gaffney Christmas Parade  
December 8 Angel Tree Gifts Due  
December 8 Christmas Music Presentation

## NEXT STEPS

- Pick up a hard copy of the LIMELight
- Make your reservation for Wednesday Night Supper
- Choose an Angel from the Angel Tree in the FLC



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

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



Francesco Hayez. **Destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem.** 1867.  
Venice, Italy: Academy of Fine Arts. Gift of the artist.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is  
the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.  
--Revelation 21:22

The reason for there being no temple in the New Jerusalem is  
presumably the same as the reason for Noah's leaving the ark behind  
when he finally makes it to Mt. Ararat. --Frederick Buechner, "Church"  
in Wishful Thinking

## 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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