



# South Mecklenburg PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service of Worship  
Seventh Sunday of Easter  
Confirmation Sunday

May 16, 2021, 10:10 a.m., Sanctuary & Live Streamed

## WE GATHER

### PRELUDE

*Partita on "Ein feste Burg": IV Ayre*

Michael D. Costello

### WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Dr. Matthew S. Brown

*Please remain masked during the service.*

### INTROIT

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Liana Hansen

One: To worship and pray

**Many: We have come this day**

One: To meditate on God's teachings

**Many: We have come this day**

One: Gathered as one family of Christ, in person and online,

**Many: we come together to love and serve!**

### HYMN (*sung by choir*)

*Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

Due to the pandemic, and in respect of one another, we ask that you silently meditate on the words rather than sing.

*Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.*

*Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;*

*proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.*

*Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,  
bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.*

*Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Claire Fenton

**We delight in your law, O God, but we don't always follow your guidance. Shower us with your mercy, that we may know your forgiveness and your grace. Guide our steps, that we may follow you more closely. Draw us closer to you and to one another, that we might support one another as we follow where you lead us, in efforts to create a world of peace and boundless love.** (silence)

One: Trusting your mercy, we lift these prayers to you in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Claire Fenton

RESPONSE OF PRAISE

*Celtic Alleluia*

Fintan O'Carroll

## WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

**Liana Rhay Hansen**

Daughter of Bjorn and Lisa Hansen, sister of Tim  
Representing the Session: Courtney Parrish

CHURCH FAMILY MOMENT

Lilly McAnally

1. Cut out a star to help you remember that Jesus is right here with us in a special way that we cannot see. Maybe you can take turns playing hide and seek with the star. Even though we can't see Jesus, Jesus is with us.
2. In the Bible passage today, Jesus says we are "in the world," but not "of the world." Go to <https://random.earth/>. This will take you to the google earth location of a random place in the world. Say a prayer for the people or creatures who live wherever you end up!
3. In the passage today, Jesus tells the disciples that he has taught them on Earth for long enough, and it is now time for them to become the teachers. Think about a time when you have been a teacher and a time when you have been a learner. Draw a picture of one of these times.
4. Journal, using these reflection questions:
  - What does Jesus mean when he says, "They do not belong to the world?"
  - Where were the disciples, Jesus' friends?
  - What did Jesus say when he showed up where they were hiding? Why do you think he said that?
  - What does it mean that Jesus has sent us into the world?

*Children four years old through third grade may recess to the back of the sanctuary, joining Rebecca for Children's Worship. The children will return to join their families at the hymn following the Sermon.*

ANTHEM

*Above All*

Lenny LeBlanc

Kara Cushman, soprano

## READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 5:1, 7, 11-12

Give ear to my words, O Lord; give heed to my sighing... But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house, I will bow down toward your holy temple in awe of you... But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, so that those who love your name may exult in you. For you bless the righteous, O Lord; you cover them with favor as with a shield.

## READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

John 17:6-19

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## SERMON

Christ Prays for Us

Dr. Brown

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Whitney Bayer

(unison). . . **"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever." Amen.**

## HYMN (sung by choir)

*I Will Come to You (verses 1, 2)*

Due to the pandemic, and in respect of one another, we ask that you silently meditate on the words rather than sing.

*"I will come to you in the silence; I will lift you from all your fear.*

*You will hear my voice; I claim you as my choice.*

*Be still and know I am here.*

*Refrain: "Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.*

*Come and follow me, I will bring you home;*

*I love you and you are mine."*

*"I am hope for all who are hopeless; I am eyes for all who long to see.*

*In the shadows of the night, I will be your light.  
Come and rest in me. (Refrain)*

## SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION

MEANING OF CONFIRMATION

Rev. Jessica Tidwell-Weinzierl

PRESENTATION OF CONFIRMANDS

Nancy Metzler

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Peter 2: 9

Rev. Tidwell-Weinzierl

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Dr. Brown and Rev. Bayer

Recognizing that all are sinners, dependent on the mercy of God, do you profess your faith in Jesus Christ as Lord of all and Savior of sinners, and do you confess your dependence upon Christ for your salvation? Do you?

Do you now resolve and promise, depending on the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will seek to live as a follower of Christ?

Do you declare your intention to participate actively and responsibly in the worship and mission of the church?

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Courtney Parrish

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

**The Apostles' Creed**

George Elledge

**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.**

HYMN (*sung by choir*)

*I Will Come to You* (verses 3, 4)

Due to the pandemic, and in respect of one another, we ask that you silently meditate on the words rather than sing.

*"I am strength for all the despairing,  
healing for the ones who dwell in shame.  
All the blind will see; the lame will all run free,  
and all will know my name. (Refrain)*

*"I am the Word that leads all to freedom;  
I am the peace the world cannot give.  
I will call your name, embracing all your pain.  
Stand up, now walk and live! (Refrain)*

PRAYER OF CONFIRMATION AND  
LAYING ON OF HANDS

Rev. Tidwell-Weinzierl

WELCOME TO DISCIPLESHIP

Meghan Bartholomew

One: By publicly professing their faith, the students of the Confirmation Class of 2021 have expressed their intention to continue in the covenant God made with them in their baptism. Let us welcome them as they join with us in the worship and mission of the church.

All: **With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you to share with us in the ministry of Christ, for we are all one in him.**

#### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Dr. Brown

*Please remain seated until dismissal by an usher.*

#### POSTLUDE

*Partita on "Ein feste Burg":*

*I. Introduction; VI. Fughetta*

Michael D. Costello

*Having been nurtured in the Word of the Lord, let us respond by offering ourselves to God furthering God's ministry in this community and in the world. Please prayerfully consider placing your offering in the offering boxes as you leave, texting SMPC to 73256, or giving online at:*

<https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=138679>.

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## WORSHIP SERVICE NOTES

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of our Confirmands and in appreciation for Rev. Jessica Tidwell-Weinzierl's Youth Ministry leadership.

#### Leading Worship this Morning

Dr. Matthew S. Brown, Pastor

Rev. Whitney Bayer, Associate Pastor

Zach Bowyer, Director of Music and Organist

Rev. Jessica Tidwell-Weinzierl, Director of Youth Ministry

George Elledge, Claire Fenton, Liana Hansen, Lilly McAnally, Liturgists

Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality & Connection

Courtney Parrish and Meghan Bartholomew, representing the Session

A/V Teams: Kari Case and Xander Case; Brad Alford and Joanna Alford

#### Worship Teams:

Ushers: Andy Burke, Dan & Gena DeChant, Mick Hunt, Brett & Linda Thompson

Elder/Deacon of the Day: Meghan Bartholomew

Welcome Team: Terry Gaines, Nancy Parrish, Kathy Rasimas

## Congregational Notes (as of May 11, 2021)

#### Remember in Prayer

- All those in our congregation and community managing COVID-19.
- Our church, our community, our country, and the world as we face this world-wide pandemic.
- Our mission partners in Bayonnais, Haiti.

To join the prayer chain or send a prayer request: [prayer@SMPCHome.org](mailto:prayer@SMPCHome.org).

### 2021 Confirmands and Mentors

Riley Bahnweg	Geoffrey Lee
Elizabeth Bartholomew	Mary Elledge
Ellie Celones	Ruby Robinson
Kinsley Colson	Karen Sandeen
Riley Cornell	Jeana Lee
Matthew Craft	Eric Smith
George Elledge	Nancy Parrish
Claire Fenton	Sheila McAnally
Margaret Garand	Kathy Graham
Sarah Graham	Donna Podgorny
Liana Hansen	Mandy Godbey
Bennett Holder	Dave Jacobus
Kasia Hurlburt	Adrienne Jaquith
Davis Lee	Laura Hancock
Maisie Macholz	Cara McCoy
Lillian McAnally	Denise Wilcox
Bryson McCoy	Betsey Macholz
Ryan Muñoz	Alix Phillips
Laura Neligan	Gayle Ireland
Brett Parrish	Frank Graham
Shay Soderlund	Mary Katheryne Zagora
Joseph Wilcox	Craig Parrish
Evan Williams	Ron Stephany



## South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church

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**[www.SMPChome.org](http://www.SMPChome.org)**