



South Mecklenburg PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service of Worship
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
October 17, 2021, 10:10 a.m., Sanctuary & Live Streamed

WE GATHER

PRELUDE	<i>Prelude on "Servant Song"</i>	Mark D. Himmelman
WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH		Rev. Whitney Bayer
MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP		Shelby Ullman
INTROIT	<i>Wait for the Lord</i>	Jacques Berthier
*CALL TO WORSHIP		Rev. Diane Giannola
One:	The Lord is our dwelling place,	
Many:	A home of peace and plenty.	
One:	The lord is our dwelling place,	
Many:	A refuge when trouble is near.	
One:	The Lord is our dwelling place,	
Many:	A temple that will stand forever.	
All:	LET US WORSHIP THE LORD.	
*HYMN	<i>The Church of Christ in Every Age</i>	No. 320

1 The church of Christ in ev - ery age, be - set by
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ning
 4 For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -

change but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
 be - dience to our Lord: to care for all, with -

her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
 out re - serve, and spread Christ's lib - er - at - ing word.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Rev. Giannola

Merciful and gentle God, we have wanted reward without sacrifice. We have been unwilling to serve and have not humbled ourselves in obedience. Forgive our hubris, gracious God. Correct our ignorant ways and help us to know your glory through servanthood. Guide us to be true followers of your way, through Jesus Christ our Lord. (*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

Rev. Giannola

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

Gloria Patri

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen. Amen.

WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD

We are concluding a six week study of the Lord's Prayer. Today, we are focusing on resisting temptation.

Here are some things you might do during worship today:

1. Make some praying hands. Trace your hands onto construction paper and then cut them out. On one side of each hand, write or draw something that tempts you (arguing with someone, being dishonest, littering, etc.). On the other side, write or draw a way you can partner with God to make a better choice. Then glue your hands together so your temptations are on the inside. You can partner with God in prayer to resist temptation!
2. Sometimes, we are tempted not to speak up when we know that something is wrong. Has this happened to you? Use a piece of paper to make a megaphone. Write, "God wants me to use my voice!" on the outside.
3. Listen to a readaloud of the book *When God Made You*.
4. Journal, considering the following:
 - a. What stories (real or fiction) do you know of people being tested?
 - b. When have you felt tested?
 - c. What has helped you make a decision when you feel tempted?
 - d. How have you seen power used for good?
 - e. How have you seen power used for evil?
 - f. How do you use your power?

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 during the music following the Sermon.

ANTHEM

Grace

Carolyn Hamlin

Chancel Choir

*Lord, as I seek Your guidance for the day, I find my thoughts unyielding,
confusion crowds my way.*

*But then when I bow to You, the challenges You guide me through,
Your promises are ever new, I claim them for today.*

Your will cannot lead me where Your grace will not keep me.

Your hand will protect me, I rest in Your care.

*Your eyes will watch over me, Your love will forgive me,
And when I am faltering, I still will find You there.*

*Each new day's design is charted by Your hand
and graciously revealed as I seek Your master plan.*

*Keep my footsteps faithful. When from You I go,
return me to the joy that Your blessings can bestow.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev. Bayer

READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 104: 1-9, 24

Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great. You are clothed with honor and majesty, wrapped in light as with a garment. You stretch out the heavens like a tent, you set the beams of your chambers on the waters, you make the clouds your chariot, you ride on the wings of the wind, you make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers. You set the earth on its foundations, so that it shall never be shaken. You cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At your rebuke they flee; at the sound of your thunder they take to flight. They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys to the place that you appointed for them. You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth. ...O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your

creatures.

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Mark 10: 35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Not So Among You

Rev. Bayer

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Make Me a Servant

Kelly Willard

*Make me a servant, humble and meek.
Lord let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the prayer of my heart always be:
Make me a servant, make me a servant,
Make me a servant today.*

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

(unison)

Rev. Giannola

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Giannola

... (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.

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN

The Servant Song

No. 727

(stanza 1: all; stanza 2: high voices; stanza 3: all;
stanza 4: low voices; stanzas 5 & 6: all)

1, 6 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney; we're to -
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you
5 When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall
be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the
geth - er on the road. We are here to help each
night - time of your fear. I will hold my hand out
laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and
find such har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to -
grace to let you be my ser - vant too.
oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.
geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.
(repeat stanza 1)

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Bayer

*CHORAL RESPONSE

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face.
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.*

POSTLUDE

Tuba Tune

Carson Cooman

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>.

WORSHIP SERVICE NOTES

Leading Worship this Morning

Rev. Whitney Bayer, Associate Pastor
Zach Bowyer, Director of Music and Organist
Diane Giannola, Parish Associate
Anna Vechnak, Children's Vision and Planning Team
Chancel Choir

A/V Team: Chris, Denise, Sydney, and Joe Wilcox

Acolytes: Hannah and Caroline Angerer

Deacon/Elder of the Day: Curtis Guy

Ushers: Andrew Brown, Brett & Linda Thompson, Bob & Alice Tyler, Jim Williams

Welcome Team: Jon Myers, Grayson Myers

We want to stay connected with you! If you don't receive our weekly email, sent out on Thursday mornings, contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection, nancy@smpchome.org. This email contains information about upcoming worship services and church activities. Also, check us out on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/southmecklenburgpresbyterian.

Interested in joining South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church? Our Session will gather to welcome new members on Sunday, October 24 at 11:30 a.m. To learn more, contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection, nancy@smpchome.org or 980-265-2839.

Congregational Notes (as of October 14, 2021)

Remember in Prayer

- Marge Kruse and family, as Dick Kruse entered the Church triumphant on Saturday, October 9.
 - Kathy Yeager and family, as Kathy's father, Robert Dobbins, entered the Church triumphant on Tuesday, October 12.
 - George Garner, as he recovers from surgery.
 - Cindy Fisher, as she recovers from surgery.
 - Our mission partners in Bayonnais, Haiti.
 - 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.
- To join the prayer chain or send a prayer request: prayer@SMPChome.org.

Sermon Evaluation Form

1. What was your overall response to the sermon?
2. What specifically resonated with you?
3. What made you uncomfortable?
4. What stuck with you and has made you think?
5. What was your biggest "take away?"

Additional Comments:

This form may also be completed and submitted here:

<https://form.jotform.com/212853618393058>



SMPC at a glance

A brief look into the life of South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church

Sunday, October 17, 2021

Worship

8:30 a.m. & 10:10 a.m., Sanctuary

Welcome, guests and friends!

What a blessing that God led you to worship with us today!

If you have questions about any of our activities or study opportunities, please see our weekly email, SMPC Now, at www.smpchome.org.

Let us know you're here!

Scan the code on the right to sign our digital welcome register. You may also sign in digitally at www.smpchome.org or in person at the Welcome Center in the Narthex.



GIVING

2022 Operating Fund Campaign
COMMITMENT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

Pledge online at www.smpchome.org/give.

JOY
UNSPEAKABLE,
FAITH
UNSINKABLE!

OR SCAN HERE
TO PLEDGE



MISSIONS-OUTREACH MINISTRY



SCAN
TO WALK OR
DONATE



SCAN
FOR MAP
& DETAILS

NOT A WALKER?

Many hands are needed to make the day a success.

Please email Bob Cushman, rtcushman@yahoo.com or Lindsey Odom, lindsey@smpchome.org to:

1. Staff the sign-in tent at SMPC. (need 2)
Staff the water tent in front of Planet Fitness, Elm Lane. (need 3)

*Please note that SMPC's CROP Walk date and location are different from those of the Charlotte CROP Walk.

CANNED GOODS + BOOKS!
LOAVES & FISHES + PROMISING PAGES!
Pick up bags today!
RETURN BY OCTOBER 31

American Red Cross
BLOOD + DRIVE
Saturday, November 6
REGISTER AT WWW.SMPCHOME.ORG/COMMUNITY.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Sunday Donut Fundraiser

For SMPC's Kids for Kids Scholarship Program

Order by TODAY at www.smpchome.org/youth or scan below.

Pick up Youth Sunday, October 24 after the 10:10 a.m. worship service.



SCAN
TO
ORDER



SPIRITUAL FORMATION MINISTRY



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24 AGES 4- 5TH GRADE 5:00 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY

C.A.R.E. (Conversation Around Race Equity)

Sunday, November 14, 4:00 p.m. and Monday, November 15, 12:00 p.m., Zoom

A new C.A.R.E. group will be starting soon!

Upcoming Dates:

Sunday, December 12, 4:00 p.m. & Monday, December 13, 12:00 p.m.

Led by Rev. Whitney Bayer and Rev. Diane Giannola.

Contact Rev. Whitney Bayer, whitney@smpchome.org, for the Zoom ID#.

SMALL GROUPS & MEET UPS

Dr. Matt Brown's Bible Study

Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m., Zoom

An exploration of the scripture for the coming week's sermon.

Contact Dr. Matt Brown, matt@smpchome.org, for the Zoom ID#.

Food for Thought Book Group

Thursday, November 4, 6:30 p.m., Zoom

Theme: What is Gabriel's Kindness Day?

Book: Human (Kind): How Reclaiming Worth and Embracing Radical Kindness

Will Bring Us Back Together by Ashlee Eiland. NF.

Contact Kathy Paquette, khesspaquette@aol.com.

Hops Around Town

Saturday, October 24, 4:00 p.m.

Petty Thieves Brewing, 413 Dalton Avenue, Suite B, Charlotte, NC 28206

Hops Around Town explores the many craft breweries in and around the Charlotte area. Join us as we gather for quaffs and conversation.

Contact Daniel Bayer, danielbayer05@gmail.com or Nancy Metzler,

nancy@smpchome.org.

Back to Basics on Zoom

Mondays, October 25, November 1 & 8, 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Zoom

Whether you're just starting your faith journey or have been on the journey for a while, we invite you to explore some of the basic tenets of what we as Presbyterians believe and why. We'll start with a short video and move on to discussion. Register on Church Life.

Contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality & Connection, nancy@smpchome.org.



If your SMPC Small Group or MeetUp would like to host a ZOOM online meeting, or a socially-distanced gathering on SMPC's campus, please contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality & Connection, nancy@smpchome.org. Also, if you are interested in formally joining the SMPC family, Nancy would love to speak with you!