



# South Mecklenburg PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*A Service of Worship*  
*Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*  
*July 5, 2020, 10:10 a.m.*

## WE GATHER

**PRELUDE** *According to Thy Gracious Word* Gilbert Martin

**WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH** Dr. Matthew S. Brown

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

**INTROIT** *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* Robert Jackson

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Rev. Whitney Bayer

One: God calls us by name into the presence of holiness as God's holy people.

Many: **We answer this call by the grace of God through the power of the Holy Spirit**

One: in the name of God's own Son,

Many: **Jesus Christ our Lord.**

All: **Come, let us worship God!**

## HYMN

*O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*


1 O beau-ti-ful for spa-cious skies, for am-ber waves of grain,  
 2 O beau-ti-ful for he-roes proved in lib-er-at-ing strife,  
 3 O beau-ti-ful for pa-triot dream that sees be-yond the years

for pur-ple moun-tain maj-es-ties a-bove the fruit-ed plain!  
 who more than self their coun-try loved, and mer-cy more than life!  
 thine al-a-bas-ter cit-ies gleam, un-dimmed by hu-man tears!

A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed his grace on thee,  
 A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God mend thine ev-ery flaw;  
 A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! May God thy gold re-fine

and crown thy good with \*broth-er-hood from sea to shin-ing sea!  
 con-firm thy soul in self-con-trol, thy lib-er-ty in law!  
 till all suc-cess be no-ble-ness and ev-ery gain di-vine!

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Rev. Bayer

Lord, we marvel at the thought of a well-fitted yoke, a burden scaled to match our frames; we do not know how to rest in the promise of such labor. Some of us are weary from unceasing responsibility; others find no welcome in the marketplace. We confound your vision for our common life. Forgive our blind striving, our stifled concern, the judgements we cast on others. Make yourself known to us in the silence. Shape your children for the commonwealth of your love. In Jesus' name we pray. (silence)

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

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Rev. Bayer

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**

CHURCH FAMILY MOMENT

Rev. Bayer

1. Pick up the heaviest item that you can lift yourself. Count to see how long you can hold it before you have to put it down. What did it feel like when you finally put it down? Jesus says that he helps us carry our burdens.
2. Google the song, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" and talk about how the lyrics relate to the scripture.
3. Draw a picture of a big weight. As you color it, consider how Jesus helps you with things that are difficult.
4. A yoke is something that helps lighten our load and that helps us carry heavy things. In our reading today, Jesus said that "his yoke was easy and his burden was light."
  - a. I wonder what that means.
  - b. I wonder what it means that Jesus helps us carry our heavy burdens?
  - c. How might Jesus help us do that?
  - d. What burdens does Christ help us carry?

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Dr. Brown

READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Proverbs 2:6-11

For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly, guarding the paths of justice and preserving the way of his faithful ones. Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity, every good path; for wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul; prudence will watch over you; and understanding will guard you.

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

"But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one

knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

**Give It a Rest!**

Dr. Brown

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)    **The Apostle's Creed**

Rev. Bayer

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

Rev. Bayer

**. . . "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.**

TIME FOR OFFERINGS AND REFLECTION

*Still*

Reuben Morgan

*Hide me now under your wings  
Cover me within Your mighty hands.*

*When the oceans rise and thunders roar  
I will soar with You, above the storm.  
Father, You are king over the flood  
I will be still and know You are God.*

*Find rest my soul, in Christ alone  
Know His power, in quietness and trust.*

Zach Bowyer, baritone

Online giving option: As an alternative to the traditional offering plate, you may support the ministries of SMPC using your mobile device by texting SMPC to **73256** or give online at <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/oglogin.aspx?sn=138679>

Please remit all giving and financial correspondence to: P. O. Box 79321, Charlotte, NC 28271

DOXOLOGY

***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.***

Sovereign Lord, may our voices always serve the purposes of your love. May we always remember that the measure of our hope is not found in who listens to us. Our hope is always in seeing signs of your grace at work in those to whom we speak. In all things, to Christ be the glory. Amen.

## WE GO OUT TO SERVE

## HYMN

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*


1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en  
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening  
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

ring, ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -  
 rod, felt in the days when hope un - born had  
 tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the

ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening  
 died. Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry  
 way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the

skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
 feet come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?  
 light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;  
Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought  
we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh -  
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get

us. Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -  
tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at  
thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand may we for - ev - er

gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.  
last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.  
stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

## CONGREGATIONAL 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.*

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in our hearts,  
We can feel the bond of family though we're apart.  
We will go and do the work of God as from worship we depart.  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in our hearts. Amen.*

## POSTLUDE

*The Washington Post*

John Philip Sousa

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## WORSHIP NOTES

Our Mission . . . to seek God's will for our lives,  
joyfully responding to the Good News of Jesus Christ with Love and Grace.

### **Stop by Coffee Grounds ONLINE after worship today!**

After streaming our worship service live, join us anytime between 11:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.  
to see familiar faces and perhaps meet someone new.

Email Nancy Metzler, [nancy@smpchome.org](mailto:nancy@smpchome.org) for the Zoom ID#.

### **Leading Worship this Morning**

Dr. Matthew S. Brown, Pastor

Rev. Whitney Bayer, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care

Zach Bowyer, Director of Music and Organist

A/V: Kari Case and Harrison Case

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In this time of social distancing, we want to stay connected with you! If you don't receive our weekly email, generally sent out on Thursday mornings, contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection, [nancy@smpchome.org](mailto:nancy@smpchome.org). This email contains information about upcoming worship services and church activities, as well as messages from our pastors and staff. Also, check us out on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/southmecklenburgpresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/southmecklenburgpresbyterian). This link works even if you don't have a Facebook account, and you can view photos, videos, and other church communications.

**Interested in joining South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church?** Through the gift of technology our Session will gather to welcome new members July 26 at 11:30 a.m. Please consider joining our church family in this nontraditional yet meaningful way. To learn more, contact Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality and Connection, [nancy@smpchome.org](mailto:nancy@smpchome.org) or 980-265-2839.

## *Congregational Notes* (as of July 1, 2020)

### **Remember in Prayer**

- Kyle, Jen, Kate, Olivia, and Elowen Smith as Kyle's mother Carol Smith entered the Church Triumphant June 27, 2020.
- Tracy, Carol, Matt, Will and Lexi Bower as Tracy's father Charles Bower entered the Church Triumphant June 28, 2020.
- 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).

Church office: 704-544-0404	Preschool office: 704-544-9831
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# South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church

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