

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

God's Time Is the Best

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

arr. E. Power Biggs (1906-1977)

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Rebecca Guzman

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

INTROIT

O Sing a New Song to the Lord Percy C. Buck

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Whitney Bayer

One: Our God is a God of power and strength!

Many: **God has created each of us with tender care.**

One: Our God is a God of majesty and awe!

Many: **God walks with each of us every step of the way.**

One: Our God is a God of glory and wonder!

Many: **God loves each of us with tenderness and passion.**

One: Our God calls us each by name.

All: **God calls each of us to unite in worship together!**

* HYMN

***Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven* No. 478**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Bayer

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Creator of the universe, we stand amazed at your power and glory. We are eager to worship you and offer our praise, but we are often reluctant to answer when we hear you calling our name. We sing our songs of tribute in the sanctuary, but shy away from the river, lest we be baptized with the fire of the Holy Spirit. Forgive us when we forget your promise to be with us always, O God. Renew us with the power of your ever-present love, and strengthen us to proclaim your justice throughout the world. (silence)

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

No. 567

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.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM

Come to the Water

John B. Foley

arr. Jack Schrader

"O let all who thirst, let them come to the water.

*And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:
without money, without price.*

Why should you pay the price, except for the Lord?

And let all who seek, let them come to the water.

*And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:
without money, without strife.*

Why should you spend your life, except for the Lord?

And let all who toil, let them come to the water.

**Please stand as you are able.*

*And let all who are weary, let them come to the Lord:
all who labor without rest.*

How can your soul find rest, except for the Lord?

And let all the poor, let them come to the water.

*Bring the ones who are laden, bring them all to the Lord:
bring the children without might.*

Easy the load and light: come to the Lord."

Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Rebecca Guzman

As the children four years old through third grade gather and recess to the Chapel for Children's Worship, the congregation is invited to join in singing:

What does the Lord require of you?

What does the Lord require of you?

***To seek justice, and love kindness,
and walk humbly with your God.***

Congregation: The peace of Christ be with you.

Children: And also with you.

What does the Lord require of you?

What does the Lord require of you?

***To seek justice, and love kindness,
and walk humbly with your God.***

The children will return to join their families at the Doxology.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Dr. Matthew S. Brown

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Matthew 3:1-12

Pew Bible pp. 2-3

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Everything

Dr. Brown

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*We respond to the hearing of God's word through affirmation,
offering, and prayers.*

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

The Apostles' Creed

Rev. Jessica Tidwell-Weinzierl

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.

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

Rev. Tidwell-Weinzierl

. . . **"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.

OFFERTORY

Fairest Lord Jesus

Silesian folk song/Cindy Berry

Audrey McConnell, piano

* DOXOLOGY

No. 592

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

Rev. Tidwell-Weinzierl

In this sacred moment we acknowledge that the impact of your gift of grace in this community does not stop here but extends out as far as our relationships take us; and so we celebrate and express our gratitude for faith-fed friendships both here and in places like Bayonnais, Haiti, where our partners in ministry provide a future for many and a powerful witness to us. May your Spirit enrich the journey of our relationship team, and may these small signs of our love and prayers be a witness to the ties that bind us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

Litany

One: As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Many: **There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling.**

One: In baptism, Meghan Bartholomew, Curtis Guy, Nancy Parrish, and Doug Rhodes were clothed with Christ, and are now called by God through the voice of the church to enter into ministries of service and governance, announcing in word and deed the good news of Jesus Christ.

Many: **We remember with joy our common calling to serve Christ, and we celebrate God's particular call to our brothers and sisters.**

One: There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

Many: **There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.**

One: God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

Many: **To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.**

All: **Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.**

Presentation of Candidates

Dr. Brown

To be Ordained and Installed, Class of 2020

Meghan Bartholomew, Curtis Guy, Nancy Parrish, Doug Rhodes

Statement on the Nature of the Office of Ruling Elder Rev. Bayer

Constitutional Questions to the Ruling Elders Dr. Brown and Rev. Bayer

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge Him Lord of all and Head of the church, and through Him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline?

Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Constitutional Questions to the Congregation

Do we, the members of the church, accept Meghan Bartholomew, Curtis Guy, Nancy Parrish, Doug Rhodes as ruling elders chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ?

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

Laying on of Hands and Prayer of Ordination and Installation Dr. Brown
Charge to Ruling Elders Dr. Brown

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD

* HYMN ***Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*** **No. 377**

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Dr. Brown

* 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. Amen.***

POSTLUDE *As One Seeks Water*
Georg Bohm (1661-1733)

The Worship Service Notes

Leading Worship this Morning
Dr. Matthew S. Brown, Pastor
Rev. Whitney Bayer, Associate Pastor
Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation
Audrey McConnell, Director of Music
Rev. Jessica Tidwell-Weinzierl, Director of Youth Ministry

Online giving option: As an alternative to the traditional offering plate, you may support SMPC using your mobile device by texting SMPC to **73256** or give online at www.SMPChome.org/Giving.

Please sign the Friendship Register as it is passed. To update contact information in our database, contact: SMPCoffice@SMPChome.org.

Note to Parents. We offer childcare for infants through kindergarten during the 10:10 a.m. Worship Service. Questions, contact: Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation, Rebecca@smpchome.org.

Interested in joining South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church? The Session will welcome new members January 27 at 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel. If you have interest in membership, speak to one of the pastors after worship today or contact: Nancy Metzler, Director of Hospitality & Connection, Nancy@smpchome.org, 704-544-0404, ext. 103.

Worship Teams

Ushers: Bruce Empie, Head Usher; Vicki & Ronny Barton, Marianne Empie, Kara & Curtis Guy
A/V: Gary Rawls

Hospitality Teams:

Coffee Grounds Hosts: Julie & Greg Hobby, Ron Morgan
Connection Center Host: Pat Nelson
Greeters: Crystal & Mike Craft, Mary & Dean Elledge

Congregational Notes (as of January 9, 2019)

Remember in Prayer

- Bobbie Lyles as she recovers from surgery.
- Kathy Rasimas as she recovers from a fall.
- Ben Celones and family as Ben's father entered the Church Triumphant.
- Patty Stevenson and family as Patty's mother entered the Church Triumphant.
- Our mission team traveling to Bayonnais, Haiti this week.

To join the prayer chain or send a prayer request:
prayer@smpchome.org



South Mecklenburg PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service of Worship

Baptism of the Lord
January 13, 2019

10:10 a.m., Sanctuary

 **South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church**
8601 Bryant Farms Road • Charlotte, North Carolina 28277 • 704.544.0404
www.SMPChome.org

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