

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

As the Prelude begins, we invite you into a period of quiet reflection as we *gather* as a community and prepare our hearts to worship God.

PRELUDE Prelude, *Suite in d minor*  
Johann Krieger (1651-1735)

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH Dr. Matthew S. Brown  
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 Rebecca Guzman

One: Let us start this service well, by reminding ourselves: That it is not we who chose Christ,

Many: **but Christ who chose us.**

One: That we are not here because of our goodness,

Many: **but because of Christ's grace.**

One: That we are not here to enlighten ourselves,

Many: **but to allow Christ to enlighten us.**

One: That we have not come to be entertained,

All: **but to worship God with heart, soul, mind and strength.**

\* HYMN *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* No. 464

CALL TO CONFESSION Rebecca Guzman

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Holy God, by the grace of Jesus Christ you know the tests and trials we face. You know our every burden, our every failing, our every weakness. Walk with us through this wilderness. Come to us with ministers of healing and visit us with messengers of hope, so that we may return to you in faith, believing the good news of the gospel; through Jesus Christ our Savior.** (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

We *listen* for the word of God through song, Scripture, and preaching.

ANTHEM *Finally Home* David Lantz III

*"From my sleep I have awakened to Your grace,  
and behold with pure delight my Savior's face.  
No more doubts my heart assail, no more striving just to fail,  
from Your eyes a sweet acceptance fills this place.*

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

*Oh, how often I despaired to know Your peace,  
praying long that anger, pain, and loss would cease.  
Though I labored just to care, every moment You were there;  
knowing fragile faith through sorrows would increase.  
Finally home, I'm finally home.*

*The journey has been long as I've learned to sing Your song.  
All is right that once was wrong, I'm finally home.  
All creation sings Your glory, might and power.  
You are God Almighty, Sovereign of each hour.  
Yet in love Your nail-scarred hand has reached down  
to help me stand with Your promise of the heaven I desire."*

Chancel Choir  
Collin Sinclair, soloist

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. Brown

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS  
Matthew 4:1-11 Pew Bible p. 3

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON **Why Jesus?** Dr. Brown

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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

\* HYMN *The Church's One Foundation* (verses 1-2, 4-5) No. 442

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison) **From: A Brief Statement of Faith**  
Rev. Whitney Bayer

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his**

**life for the sins of the world. God raised Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

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.**

OFFERTORY *Speechless* Tony Wood/  
Marie Reynolds/Kevin Stokes  
Sandi Buchanan, soloist

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](http://www.SMPCHome.org/Giving)

\* 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 Bella Brawley

**God of purpose, along with these gifts we offer ourselves to your service and rely on your strength to follow the way of Jesus Christ and honor his sacrifice of love and faithfulness. Amen.**

## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD

\* HYMN *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* No. 356

\* 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 *Recessional in G Major* John Stanley  
(1713-1786)

## The Worship Service Notes

Leading Worship this Morning

Dr. Matthew S. Brown, Pastor  
Rev. Whitney Bayer, Associate Pastor of Congregational Care  
Rebecca Guzman, Director of Spiritual Formation  
Audrey McConnell, Director of Music  
Sandi Buchanan, Soloist  
Collin Sinclair, Soloist  
Bella Brawley, Liturgist

The flowers are given today to the glory of God by Lisa and Andy Burke and in loving memory of their son Ryan Andrew Burke.

Please sign the Friendship Register as it is passed. To update contact information in our database, contact: [SMPCoffice@SMPChome.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Nancy@smpchome.org), 704-544-0404, ext. 103.

### Worship Teams

Ushers: Charles Casey, Head Usher; Krista Casey, Dick Engle, Judy Jones, Donna Podgorny, Bob Williamson  
A/V: Kari Case

### Hospitality Teams:

Coffee Grounds Hosts: Jerry Hawver, Sue & Ed Slezycki  
Connection Center Host: Barbara Goodman  
Greeters: Cindy & Keith Bernhardt

### Congregational Notes (as of January 16, 2019)

#### Remember in Prayer

- Woody Wood as he recovers from a fall
- Bobbie Lyles as she recovers from surgery
- Kathy Rasimas as she recovers from a fall
- Our mission team traveling to Bayonnais, Haiti.

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

Faith  
Practice  
GATHERING TO GROW

5  
FAITH FIVE

EVERY NIGHT IN EVERY HOME

SHARE

HIGHS AND LOWS.

READ

A BIBLE VERSE OR STORY.

TALK

ABOUT HOW THE  
BIBLE READING  
MIGHT RELATE TO  
YOUR HIGHS AND  
LOWS.

PRAY

FOR ONE ANOTHER'S  
HIGHS AND LOWS.

BLESS

ONE ANOTHER.

† South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church



# South Mecklenburg PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## A Service of Worship

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany  
January 20, 2019

10:10 a.m., Sanctuary

 **South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church**  
8601 Bryant Farms Road • Charlotte, North Carolina 28277 • 704.544.0404  
[www.SMPChome.org](http://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.